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Ohio Valley Historical Series.

NUMBER TWO.

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WALKER'S

*History of Athens County, Ohio.*







FRANCIS BACON

FRANCIS BACON, ESQ., OF BACON'S COURT, LONDON.

FRANCIS BACON, ESQ., OF BACON'S COURT, LONDON.

FRANCIS BACON, ESQ., OF BACON'S COURT, LONDON.

HISTORY  
OF  
ATHENS COUNTY, OHIO

*And Incidentally of the Ohio Land Company*

AND THE

First Settlement of the State at Marietta,

WITH PERSONAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE EARLY  
SETTLERS, NARRATIVES OF PIONEER ADVENTURES, ETC.

BY  
CHARLES M. WALKER.

WITH MAP AND PORTRAITS.

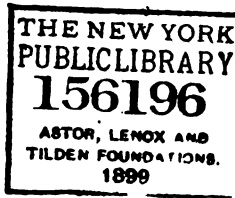
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## P R E F A C E .

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**T**HIS unpretending book is a record of but narrow interest and of purely local events. Its preparation was undertaken at the instance and request of some of the old citizens of Athens county—a county which, one of the earliest organized in Ohio, contains, perhaps, a greater number of surviving pioneers than any other in the state except Washington. The desire, on the part of these pioneers, to see preserved in a somewhat connected form the annals of the first settlement of the county and of their own labors and struggles in founding society here, is not an unnatural one. “Near is thy forgetfulness of all things,” said Marcus Aurelius, in one of his aphorisms, “and near the forgetfulness of thee by all.” With something of this feeling, it is, perhaps, that the old always dwell with such keen pleasure on the events and associations of their early life. Conscious of approaching change and of waning strength, they love to linger on the honorable achievements and labors of that

(iii)



period when the eye was bright, the brain active, and the step elastic. There is, also, a feeling among men that the record of a well-spent and useful life, even if humble, deserves to be remembered. They derive a pardonable pleasure from the thought that posterity will not wholly ignore nor forget them.

It is in recognition of this feeling that these pages have been written. To preserve some account of the lives and labors of the early settlers, who bore so honorable a part in converting a wilderness into a great commonwealth, and to rescue from total oblivion some matters that seem worthy of being narrated, is the modest object of this sketch concerning the history of Athens county.

In endeavoring to accomplish faithfully what was undertaken, it has been found that the work, notwithstanding its narrow scope, involved considerable labor and difficulties. Much of the information touching the first settlement of the county has passed out of reach and is lost forever. Nearly three-quarters of a century have elapsed since the first band of pioneers came into Athens and Ames townships, and that generation has disappeared. If this work had been undertaken by some one fifteen or twenty years since, a vastly greater amount of oral and traditional history could have been gained from the then surviving pioneers. But they have passed away, and it is from

their sons and successors that many of the facts herein have been obtained. It is evident that much of the material so acquired would be more or less vague, confused, and difficult to arrange. The writer has, however, labored diligently to overcome these obstacles, and hopes that he has been mainly successful. He is well aware that there will be found errors both of omission and of commission in the book, but it is impossible, in a work of this sort, to eliminate all such. The writer is very conscious, too, of the literary deficiencies of the book. It has been prepared hurriedly, amid the constant pressure of other duties, and the marks of haste are apparent; could he have had more time, he would have improved and greatly condensed it. Such as it is, however, if it shall afford any gratification to the good people of the county, where he was born and passed the early portion of his life, the writer will feel pleased and well rewarded. Doubtless it will be discovered that some prominent early settlers, or leading men among recent citizens, have not been mentioned at all, while comparatively too great prominence will be thought to have been given to others; but the best has been done that could be, under the circumstances, and it is hoped such inequalities and defects will be overlooked.

In seeking requisite facts and information, the writer has met with valuable assistance from so many quarters, that it is entirely

impossible to name here the numerous persons to whom he is thus indebted, however agreeable it would be to his own feelings to do so. He is forced, therefore, to adopt the unsatisfactory mode of thus thanking them, one and all, indiscriminately, for their marked and constant courtesy.

C. M. W.

*May*, 1869.

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# ATHENS COUNTY, OHIO.



# HISTORY

OF

## Athens County, Ohio.

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### CHAPTER I.

#### Indian Occupation of Ohio.

**E**IGHTY years ago the territory included within the limits of the present State of Ohio was an almost unbroken wilderness. The beautiful river that forms its southern boundary had, indeed, been threaded by a few eager explorers; but the white man had not yet established himself upon its banks. So too Lake Erie, on the north, had long before been furrowed by the adventurous craft of civilized men; but on all its borders there was not a hamlet nor a house. Over the whole region, now so thickly populated, brooded the silence of savage life. The rivers were ploughed only by the swift canoe of the Indian, the forests echoed no sound of productive industry, and the virgin earth



waited for the race that was to develop its riches and its beauty.

To-day, in wealth and population Ohio ranks third among the states of the Union. Large cities, flourishing towns, peaceful hamlets, and smiling farms enliven and beautify the scene. Huge steamers, laden with passengers and with wealth, ply upon the rivers and lakes which, less than three generations ago, were silent and desolate. Railroads traverse the state in all directions; busy manufactories give employment to thousands; institutions of learning and charity abound, and, in all respects, the state ranks as a prosperous and powerful commonwealth.

History does not elsewhere record such an extraordinary case of rapid development, and the political philosopher finds abundant food for thought in tracing, from their first beginning, the causes that have contributed to so great a growth. We propose, in these pages, to chronicle some of the events and to sketch some of the individuals connected with the settlement and development of one small portion of this great state, viz: *Athens County*.

Before entering, however, upon matters purely local, let us take a general view of the country and its inhabitants prior to its first settlement by the whites, and thus enable ourselves more clearly to appreciate the wildness of the region to which the early settlers came.

WHATEVER curious speculations may be indulged as to the origin of the Indian races that once inhabited the northwestern territory, it is certain that we have no clear knowledge of them farther back than the middle of the seventeenth century. Beyond that, they disappear in the mists of the pre-historic period, and, even long after that, much that is written concerning them rests on vague tradition. Whether they were sprung from some of the oriental tribes, or what their origin and whence their travels, are questions that will probably never be answered; they belong to the class of ethnological mysteries which will, in all times, furnish themes for the ingenious researches of learned men, but which will never be solved. It is not proposed to enter into this broad and interesting topic, but merely to glance at the condition of the country and the character of the aboriginal inhabitants of Ohio before its first settlement by the whites.

In 1650, Ohio was an unbroken forest, occupied principally by a tribe of Indians called the *Eries*, who had their villages and hunting grounds near the shores of the lake of that name, and whose wanderings were chiefly confined to the present northern portions of the state. The *Wyandots* (or *Hurons*) held the peninsula between Lakes Huron, Erie and Ontario, and their hunting excursions extended as far south

as the regions about the mouths of the Maumee and Sandusky, while a tribe called the *Andastes* possessed the valleys of the Allegheny and the upper Ohio.

During the latter half of the seventeenth century, frequent and terrible incursions were made among these tribes of the west by the more warlike and powerful *Iroquois*, from New York. These *Iroquois*, so called by the French, were the noted Five Nations, viz: the *Mohawks*, *Oneidas*, *Onondagas*, *Cayugas*, and *Senecas*, and they formed the strongest confederation known in Indian history. Tradition relates with what relentless fury and unwearying tenacity the hostile *Iroquois* warred upon the western tribes until finally the latter were wiped out—either massacred, driven away, or merged into other tribes.

Thus, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, Ohio was almost unclaimed and uninhabited by human beings save as it was used as a hunting ground by the *Iroquois*, or crossed and recrossed by them in their long war expeditions. But they were not able to maintain complete supremacy over so vast a region, and between 1700 and 1750 Ohio again became occupied by different tribes of savages, which, the active warfare of the *Iroquois* having measurably ceased, took possession of the whole region as weeds take possession of a neglected field. They probably sprung from the surviving members of the tribes that had been overcome and dispersed by the *Iroquois*, and a mere enumeration of them will answer our present purpose. They were,

1. The *Wyandots*, who were descended, doubtless, from the undestroyed remnant of the once powerful tribe of that name, which, half a century before, had been driven off by the *Iroquois*. Freed from the vindictive pursuit of their ancient enemies, this tribe returned to their old hunting grounds, and by the middle of the eighteenth century their right was undisputed to the northern part of the state.

2. The *Delawares*, whose principal settlements were on the Muskingum river, where they flourished and became a powerful tribe, asserting a possession over nearly one-half of the state.

3. The *Shawanese* (written also *Shawanoese* and *Shawnees*), who are supposed to have come from the distant south—perhaps from the country bordering on the Gulf of Mexico. They occupied the Scioto and Miami country, and for a long distance eastward, including the present county of Athens and adjacent region, though the *Wyandots* and *Delawares* were also frequently found in this section on hunting or war expeditions. The *Shawanese* had four tribes, or subdivisions, two of which were the *Piqua* and the *Chillicothe* tribes; hence the names of those towns. Powerful and warlike, they were among the most efficient allies of the French during the seven years war, and subsequently took an active part against the Americans

during the revolution and the Indian war which followed. Their hostility was terminated by the treaty at Greenville in 1795, by which they ceded nearly the whole of their territory. A portion of them, however, again made war against the United States, having, with Tecumseh, joined the British standard during the war of 1812.

4. The *Ottawas* (or as they were called by the early white settlers, the *Tawas*), who dwelt in the valleys of the Sandusky and Maumee rivers, and who, together with the *Wyandots*, occupied portions of northern Ohio.

The foregoing enumeration conveys an idea, sufficiently accurate for our purpose, of the Indian tribes that inhabited Ohio during the middle and latter part of the eighteenth century, and up to the time of the first white settlement, under the auspices of the "Ohio Company." These tribes were roving and active, and in the power to make war by no means contemptible. The long and bloody struggle which they made to keep possession of the country, sufficiently attests their tenacity of purpose and their capacity for concerted action.

There is reason to believe that in some former age, though how remote can only be conjectured, what is now Athens county was a favorite resort of the Indians. Indeed, remarkable traces of their existence are

still to be found here. In Athens and Dover townships, on the level plateau called "the Plains," are several of those Indian mounds which, found in various parts of the Mississippi valley, have so long interested American archæologists. A still more interesting Indian relic in the same township, is the remains of an ancient earthwork or fortification.\* Considerably more than an acre is included by an embankment which, though it has been ploughed over for a third of a century, is still very marked with its rude bastions, ramparts, and curtains. It is probable that on this spot, some hundreds of years since, a battle was fought between warring tribes of savages for the possession of the inviting plains of Dover and the lower valley of the Hockhocking. Numerous skeletons have been found in these mounds, together with Indian hatchets and other weapons of stone.

Such, then, were the occupants of Ohio in the middle of the eighteenth century, and such, at least, approximately, were the limits of their homes and haunts. During the half century that followed, while the white men were building up a civil society in the East, and events were slowly drifting toward the collision and war which resulted in American independence, the possessory rights of these savages were but little disturbed in Ohio. Here they roamed, and hunted, and made

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\* On the farm now owned by David Zenner.

love or war at their pleasure, little conscious of their approaching troubles and doom. It is no part of the purpose of this narrative to treat in detail of the history of this period, of the intrigues and wars of the French and English for the possession of this Western country, and of the fitful and treacherous alliances of the Indians now with one side and now with the other. Our aim is merely to call attention to the character of the Indian tribes that occupied the country by way of showing in some degree the dangers and the obstacles with which the pioneers had to deal; this being cursorily accomplished, we pass to events more nearly connected with our subject.

*Dunmore's War.*

Probably but few of the present inhabitants of Athens county are aware that a fort was established within its limits, and an army marched across its borders, led by an English earl, before the Revolutionary war. The building of *Fort Gower* at the mouth of the Hockhocking river, in what is now Troy township, and the march of Lord Dunmore's army across the county, thirty years before its erection as a county, forms an interesting passage in our remote history before the earliest settlement by the whites.

"Dunmore's war" was the designation applied to a series of bloody hostilities between the whites and Indians during the year 1774. It was the culmination

of the bitter warfare that had been waged with varying success between the frontier population of Pennsylvania and Virginia, and the *Delawares*, *Iroquois*, *Wyandots*, and other tribes of Indians. One of the most noted of the many massacres of that period was that of Logan's family by the whites, and, in retaliation, the swift vengeance of the *Mingo* chief upon the white settlements on the Monongahela, where, in the language of his celebrated speech, he "fully glutted his vengeance."

In August, 1774, Lord Dunmore, then royal Governor of Virginia, determined to raise a large force and carry the war into the enemy's country. The plan of the campaign was simple. Three regiments were to be raised west of the Blue Ridge, to be commanded by General Andrew Lewis, while two other regiments from the interior were to be commanded by Dunmore himself. The forces were to form a junction at the mouth of the Great Kanawha and proceed under the command of Lord Dunmore to attack the Indian towns in Ohio.

The force under Lewis, amounting to eleven hundred men, rendezvoused at Camp Union, now Lewisburg, Greenbrier county, West Virginia, whence they marched early in September, and reached Point Pleasant on the 6th of October. Three days later, Lewis received dispatches from Dunmore informing him that he had changed his plan of operations; that he (Dun-



more) would march across the country against the *Shawanese* towns on the Scioto, situated within the present limits of Pickaway county, and Lewis was ordered to cross the Ohio river at once and join Dunmore before those towns.

This movement was to have been made on the 10th of October. On that day, however, before the march had begun, two men of Lewis's command were fired upon while hunting a mile or so from camp. One was killed and the other came rushing into camp with the alarm that Indians were at hand. General Lewis had barely time to make some hasty dispositions when there began one of the most desperate Indian battles recorded in border warfare—the battle of Point Pleasant. The Indians were in great force, infuriated by past wrongs and by the hope of wiping out their enemy by this day's fight, and were led on by their ablest and most daring chiefs. Pre-eminent among the savage leaders were Logan and "Cornplanter" (or "Cornstalk"), whose voices rang above the din, and whose tremendous feats performed in this day's action have passed into history. The contest lasted all day and was not yet decided. Toward evening General Lewis ordered a body of men to gain the enemy's flank, on seeing which movement about to be successfully executed the Indians drew off and effected a safe retreat. The force on both sides in this battle was nearly equal—about 1,100. The whites lost half their officers and

52 men killed. The loss of the Indians, killed and wounded, was estimated at 233.\* Soon after the battle Lewis crossed the river and pursued the Indians with great vigor, but did not again come in conflict with them.

Meanwhile, Lord Dunmore, in whose movements we are more interested, had, with about twelve hundred men, crossed the mountains at Potomac Gap, reviewed his force at Fort Pitt (now Pittsburg), and descended the Ohio river as far as the mouth of the Hockhocking, within the present limits of Athens county. Here he landed, formed a camp, and built a fortification which he called *Fort Gower*. It was from here that he sent word to General Lewis of the change in his plan of campaign, and he remained here until after the battle of Point Pleasant. Abraham Thomas, formerly of Miami county, Ohio, who was in Dunmore's army, has stated in a letter published many years ago in the *Troy Times*, that by laying his ear close to the surface of the river on the day of the battle, he could distinctly hear the roar of the musketry more than twenty-five miles distant.

Leaving a sufficient force at Fort Gower to protect the stores and secure it as a base, Lord Dunmore marched up the Hockhocking toward the Indian country. There is a tradition that his little army

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\*Amer. Archives, vol. 1, p. 1018.

encamped a night successively at Federal creek, and at Sunday creek, in Athens county.

He marched across the present limits of the county and up the Hockhocking as far as where Logan now stands; and from there westward to a point seven miles from Circleville, where a grand parley was held with the Indians. It was at this council, by the way, that the famous speech of the Mingo chief was made, beginning "I appeal to any white man to say, if ever he entered Logan's cabin hungry and he gave him not meat," etc. After the execution of a treaty with the Indians (for we do not propose to detail the movements of General Lewis or the operations of the campaign, except as they had some connection with what is now Athens county), Lord Dunmore returned to Fort Gower by nearly the same route he had pursued in his advance, viz: across the country and down the valley of the Hockhocking to its mouth. It is probable that his army was disbanded at this point, and returned in small parties to their homes.

Charles Whittlesey, in *Fugitive Essays*, says:

"In 1831 a steamboat was detained a few hours near the house of Mr. Curtis, on the Ohio, a short distance above the mouth of the Hockhocking, and General Clark, of Missouri, came ashore. He inquired respecting the remains of a fort or encampment at the mouth of the Hockhocking river. He was told that there was evidence of a clearing of several acres

in extent, and that pieces of guns and muskets had been found on that spot; and also that a collection of several hundred bullets had been discovered on the bank of the Hockhocking, about twenty-five miles up the river. General Clark then stated that the ground had been occupied as a camp by Lord Dunmore who came down the Kanawha with three hundred men in the spring of 1775, with the expectation of treating with the Indians here. The chiefs not making their appearance, the march was continued up the river twenty-five or thirty miles, where an express from Virginia overtook the party. That evening a council was held and lasted till very late at night. In the morning the troops were disbanded, and immediately requested to enlist in the British service for a stated period. The contents of the dispatches, received the previous evening, had not transpired when this proposition was made. A major of militia, named McCarty, made an harangue to the men against enlisting, which seems to have been done in an eloquent and effectual manner. He referred to the condition of the public mind in the colonies, and the probability of a revolution which must soon arrive. He represented the suspicious circumstances of the express, which was still a secret to the troops, and that appearances justified the conclusion that they were required to enlist in a service against their own countrymen, their own kindred, their own homes.

“The consequence was that but few of the men re-enlisted, and the majority, choosing the orator as leader, made the best of their way to Wheeling. The news brought out by the courier proved to be an account of the opening combat of the Revolution, at Lexington, Mass., April 20, 1775.

“General Clark stated that himself (or his brother) was in the expedition.”

Of this account, Mr. Whittlesey says it was related to him "by Walter Curtis, Esq., of Belpre, Washington county, Ohio, and transmitted by me in substance to the secretary of the Ohio Historical Society. Mr. Curtis received it from General Clark, an eminent citizen of Missouri, a brother of General George Rogers Clark, of Kentucky." Mr. Whittlesey admits that, "though it comes very well authenticated, it seems to contradict other well-known facts." We are decidedly of opinion that General Clark's statement was erroneous in respect of the time, nature, and object of Lord Dunmore's expedition up the Hockhocking, and that he never made but one expedition to that region, which was the one we have already described. In the first place, there is not a scrap nor particle of history extant to show that Dunmore made any western expedition in the "spring of 1775." Secondly, we know that he *was* there in the summer and autumn of 1774, that Fort Gower was built at that time, and, probably, the buried bullets, etc., were deposited at the same time. Thirdly, hostilities with the mother country had begun in the spring (April) of 1775; Lord Dunmore was one of the most active and determined royalists in the colonies, and it is not likely that he was spending his time chasing after the Indians when his master's empire in America was crumbling to pieces. Finally, we know that Dunmore was at Williamsburg, Virginia, on the 3d day of May,

1775, for on that day he issued a proclamation to "the disaffected persons of the Colony," calling on them to return to their allegiance.\* There is evidence that he was there in April of the same year; and in June, 1775, a letter written from Baltimore says: "A gentleman who last night came here from Williamsburg, which he left on Friday last, June 9th, brings an account of Lord Dunmore having the day before gone on board a man-of-war at York, with his lady and family, for safety."† These considerations we think, render it quite clear that Lord Dunmore did not make an expedition to the Hockhocking country in the spring of 1775, and doubtless the one made in the summer of 1774 was the only one he ever made to this region.

As a matter of historical curiosity we give the following:

*"Proceedings of a Meeting of Officers under Earl Dunmore.*

"At a meeting of the officers under the command of his Excellency, the Right Honorable the Earl of Dunmore, convened at Fort Gower, situated at the junction of the Ohio and Hockhocking rivers, November 5, 1774, for the purpose of considering the grievances of British America, an officer present addressed the meeting in the following words:

"Gentlemen: Having now concluded the campaign, by the assistance of Providence, with honor and advantage to the colony

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\* Amer. Archives, vol. 2, p. 466.

† *Idem*, p. 975.

and ourselves, it only remains that we should give our country the strongest assurance that we are ready, at all times, to the utmost of our power, to maintain and defend her just rights and privileges. We have lived about three months in the woods, without any intelligence from Boston or from the delegates at Philadelphia. It is possible, from the groundless reports of designing men, that our countrymen may be jealous of the use such a body would make of the arms in their hands at this critical juncture. That we are a respectable body is certain, when it is considered that we can live weeks without bread or salt; that we can sleep in the open air without any covering but the canopy of heaven, and that our men can march and shoot with any in the known world. Blessed with these talents, let us solemnly engage with one another, and our country in particular, that we will use them to no purpose but the honor and advantage of America in general, and of Virginia in particular. It behooves us then, for the satisfaction of our country, that we should give them our real sentiments, by way of resolves, at this very alarming crisis.'

"WHEREUPON the meeting made choice of a committee to draw up and prepare resolves for their consideration, who immediately withdrew; and after some time spent therein, reported that they had agreed to and prepared the following resolves, which were read, maturely considered, and unanimously adopted by the meeting:

"*Resolved*, That we will bear the most faithful allegiance to his Majesty King George the Third, whilst his Majesty delights to reign over a brave and free people; that we will, at the expense of life and everything dear and valuable, exert ourselves in support of the honor of his Crown and the dignity of the British Empire. But as the love of liberty, and attachment to

the real interests and just rights of America, outweigh every other consideration, we resolve that we will exert every power within us for the defense of *American liberty*, and for the support of her just rights and privileges; not in any precipitate, riotous, or tumultuous manner, but when regularly called forth by the unanimous voice of our countrymen.

“*Resolved*, That we entertain the greatest respect for his Excellency the Right Honorable Lord Dunmore, who commanded the expedition against the Shawanese; and who, we are confident, underwent the great fatigue of this singular campaign from no other motive than the true interest of this country.

“Signed, by order and in behalf of the whole corps.

BENJAMIN ASHBY, *Clerk.*”\*

On his return to Virginia, Lord Dunmore received the congratulations of various towns, and the thanks of the Assembly, on the successful issue of his expedition and his execution of a treaty with the Indians. He at once ardently espoused the cause of the King, was one of his most influential and obstinate adherents in the colonies, and spent the remainder of his brief stay in this country in the vain effort to resist the consummation of American independence. But the doom of the cause which Lord Dunmore thus earnestly espoused was as clearly written in the book of fate as was that of the savage race, against whose towns he had marched up the banks of the Hockhocking. †

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\* Amer. Archives, vol. 1, p. 962.

† *Hockhocking* is a Delaware (Indian) name, and meant, in their language, *Bottle river*. In the spring of 1765, George Croghan, a



sub-commissioner of the British government, embarked at Pittsburg, with some friendly Indians, intending to visit the Wabash and Illinois country, and conclude a treaty with the Indians. Five days from Pittsburg, he notes in his journal that "we passed the mouth of *Hochocen*, or *Bottle River*." This translation of the word Hochocen or Hockhocking, is also given by Heckewelder and Johnson, and is undoubtedly correct. The Shawanese called the river *Weatbak-agb-qua*, which meant, in their dialect, the same as Hockhocking; and one of the other tribes called it by a name signifying *Bow river*. All of these names had reference to the winding, crooked course of the stream. The origin of the name Hockhocking—Bottle river—is thus explained by a writer in an old number of the *American Pioneer*, who says: "About six or seven miles northwest of Lancaster, there is a fall in the Hockhocking of about twenty feet; above the falls, for a short distance, the stream is very narrow and straight, forming a neck, while at the falls it suddenly widens on each side, and swells into the appearance of the body of a bottle. The whole, when seen from above, appears exactly in the shape of a bottle, and from this fact arose the Indian name of Hockhocking."

It is to be regretted that the name of the river is now almost invariably abbreviated to *Hocking*. True, it takes longer to write or pronounce the real name—Hockhocking; but the whites have never rendered such distinguished favors or services to the Indian race as to entitle them to mutilate the Indian language by altering or clipping the few words that cling to the geography of the country. Some of these Indian names are not only expressive in their original signification, but are really musical. The following verses, written many years ago, by a former editor of Cincinnati—Mr. William J. Sperry, of the *Globe*—though not highly poetical, are worth insertion in this connection:

**THE LAST OF THE RED MEN.**

Sad are fair Muskingum's waters,  
    Sadly, blue Mahoning raves;  
Tuscarawas' plains are lonely,  
    Lonely are Hockhocking's waves.

From where headlong Cuyahoga  
    Thunders down its rocky way,  
And the billows of blue Erie,  
    Whiten in Sandusky's bay;

Unto where Potomac rushes  
    Arrowy from the mountain side,  
And Kanawha's gloomy waters  
    Mingle with Ohio's tide;

From the valley of Scioto,  
    And the Huron sisters three,  
To the foaming Susquehanna,  
    And the leaping Genesee;

Over hill, and plain, and valley,  
    Over river, lake, and bay—  
On the water, in the forest,  
    Ruled and reigned the Seneca.

But sad are fair Muskingum's waters,  
    Sadly, blue Mahoning raves;  
Tuscarawas' plains are lonely,  
    Lonely are Hockhocking's waves.

*Indian Occupation of Ohio.*

By Kanawha dwells the stranger,  
Cuyahoga feels the chain;  
Stranger ships vex Erie's billows,  
Strangers plough Scioto's plain.

And the Iroquois have wasted  
From the hill and plain away;  
On the waters, in the valley,  
Reigns no more the Seneca.

Only by the Cattaraugus,  
Or by Lake Chautauqua's side,  
Or among the scanty woodlands  
By the Allegheny's tide :

There, in spots, like sad oases,  
Lone amid the sandy plains,  
There the Seneca, still wasting,  
Amid desolation reigns.

## CHAPTER II.

## The Ohio Company.

ALL of the present county of Athens was included in the original "Ohio Company's Purchase." It formed a part of Washington county until the year 1805, so that for a period of sixteen years, or until the date of its severance from Washington and erection into a separate county, their histories were, in some sense, identical. The fortified and well-protected settlement of Marietta, begun in 1788, very soon pushed its outposts into the interior, and many of those who first located within the limits of Washington, died within the limits of Athens county. The number of instances is still greater in which the second generation of pioneer families is found to have removed from one county to the other. In view of these facts we may with propriety introduce into this narrative some account of the formation of "The Ohio Company" and its founders, and of the first colony planted under its auspices at Marietta in 1788, by which Washington and Athens counties became

the site of the earliest white settlement made in the territory of the Northwest.

The conclusion of the Revolutionary war, as of all earnest and protracted wars, witnessed the sudden throwing-out of employment of a great many men. There were patriotic officers who had risked their lives and sacrificed their property in the contest, and no less patriotic soldiers who, though they had not sacrificed so much, found themselves at the end of the war with an abundance of liberty but no property, and their occupation gone. The eastern states abounded with these men. They were men of character, energy, and enterprise, full of patriotism and true democratic ideas, proud of their manhood and of their ability to labor. Nor were they in every case men of merely physical resources; in many instances they had enjoyed the advantages of scholastic training, and had mingled the culture of science with the profession of arms. Others of them, though not educated, in the usual acceptation of the term, had that strong native sense and "mother wit" which avail far more in the world than the knowledge of mere pedants however extensive. Bold, active, and adventurous, they had the fullest confidence in the future of their country, and longed to bear a further part in its history and development. Added, doubtless, to such considerations was a desire to rebuild their shattered fortunes, and to regain, under the large liberty and equal laws

of the new republic, some portion of the wealth they had sacrificed in fighting for it. The following sketch of one of these retired warriors will revive the memory of a good and pure man, who was for many years very closely identified with the first settlement of Washington and Athens counties.

*Rufus Putnam.*

RUFUS PUTNAM was born at Sutton, Massachusetts, on the 9th of April, 1738. His father, Elisha Putnam, was the great-great grandson of John Putnam who emigrated from Buckinghamshire, England, and settled at Salem, Massachusetts, in 1634, just fourteen years after the landing at Plymouth Rock. Rufus was the youngest of six children. His father, who is spoken of as "a very useful man in the civil and ecclesiastical concerns of the town" where he lived, died in 1745. Thus orphaned at the tender age of seven, the boy Rufus was sent to live with his maternal grandfather, Mr. Jonathan Fuller, in Danvers, Massachusetts, where he remained less than two years. While here he had such school advantages as the place and times afforded, and learned to read. These advantages, however, meager as they were, were quickly ended; for about this time his mother married again, and Rufus went home and lived there till he was fifteen years old. His stepfather was not only an illiterate man, but despised learning and scouted at the idea of studying

books. He not only did not aid his stepson in his efforts to learn, but denied him all opportunities for instruction. The boy was not allowed to go to school, was refused the means of adding to his little store of books, and was even denied a candle at night by which to study. But, he verified the adage "Where there is a will there is a way," and proved anew that a youth with a thirst for learning was never yet baffled in his resolve to quench it. The stepfather kept a kind of public house, and Rufus, by diligently waiting on chance travelers, acquired a few pence of his own. With these he bought powder and shot, and, being something of a sportsman, raised money enough by the sale of game to purchase a spelling book and arithmetic. With these invaluable aids he made fair progress, teaching himself meanwhile to write and compose sentences.

When nearly sixteen years old he was apprenticed to a millwright in Brookfield, Massachusetts, with whom he remained four years. Here he learned the purely mechanical parts of the trade, but he had no further instruction. He pursued, however, his course of self instruction, getting such books as he could, and toiling painfully along in the study of arithmetic and geography. His working hours were devoted to acquiring the practical art of the millwright and to farm labor, and his leisure time to reading and the study of such books as he could procure. Thus, by the time he was eighteen years old, he was, physically, a thoroughly

developed and powerful man, and, in mental culture, had laid a good foundation for future acquisitions, and gained a stock of ideas by no means despicable.

At the age of nineteen his apprenticeship was completed. The war between Great Britain and France had then (1757) been in progress about three years, and young Putnam was no sooner free to choose his own course than he enlisted as a private soldier in the provincial army. His patriotic instincts at that time led him to fight for, as in later life they forced him to fight against, the King. The company to which he belonged joined the army in the vicinity of Lake George, New York, in May, 1757. He served from this time in all of the campaigns till the close of the war, undergoing with patient heroism all the toils and dangers of the service, and discharging his duty with fidelity and zeal. At the close of the war, in December, 1760, he returned to his home in New Braintree, and in the following spring, April, 1761, married Miss Ayres, of Brookfield, who died in childhood in the ensuing winter.

For seven or eight years after the conclusion of the French war, Mr. Putnam devoted himself exclusively to his trade as millwright. Being now master of his own time, he habitually gave certain portions of it to self improvement, especially in the practical branches of mathematics, in which he felt himself deficient. By persevering industry, he so far acquired the principles of surveying and navigation as to be able to practice



them. Later in life his knowledge of surveying was of the greatest value to him. In January, 1765, being then twenty-seven years old, he married a second time. His wife was Miss Persis Rice, of Westborough, Massachusetts. They lived together more than fifty-five years, and raised a numerous family of children.

We have very little record of Mr. Putnam's life during the next ten years. It is probable that he pursued the joint vocations of farmer and millwright, rearing his family, meanwhile, according to the thrifty code of New England. These were the piping times of peace, from 1765 to 1775, and the crisis had not yet arrived when men of action like Putnam showed to advantage. We are, however, informed of one undertaking in which he engaged during this interval, which indicates that he was full of enterprise and alive to the movements of the day. This was an effort to colonize in Florida, by an association styled "The Military Company of Adventurers." It was composed of those who had served in the provincial army during the French war, and the association expected to obtain grants of land in "West Florida" (now Mississippi), from the British government. Mr. Putnam was chosen one of the explorers. The necessary preparations for the voyage and service having been completed, the party sailed from New York in January, 1773. After a long voyage they arrived at Pensacola, and there, to their great disappointment and chagrin, found that the

Governor had no authority to grant them lands as had been represented. Considerable time was spent in negotiations on the subject, and exploring the rivers and adjacent country; but no settlement was made, and Mr. Putnam finally returned to Massachusetts.

The contest between England and her American colonies had now reached the acme of bitterness. On one side was evinced a disposition to oppress, and on the other a determination to resist. Reconciliation was out of the question, and what shrewd men had long foreseen was now to become a reality. War began. On the 19th of April, 1775, the battles of Lexington and Concord were fought, and immediate and open hostilities followed. Among the first to take up arms in defense of the country was Mr. Putnam. He received a commission as lieutenant-colonel in Brewer's regiment, one of the first that was raised. From this time till the close of the war, he was ardent, active, and efficient in his support of the colonial cause. In August, 1776, he received from Congress an appointment as engineer, with the rank of colonel, in which rank he served several years with great efficiency. In 1782 there were two vacant brigadier-generalships in the Massachusetts line, to one of which Col. Putnam felt that his long and meritorious service entitled him to be promoted. Owing, however, to certain local intrigues, not necessary to be detailed, no promotion was made, and the places were kept

vacant for a considerable time, much to Col. Putnam's annoyance and disgust. Washington, whose entire confidence Putnam enjoyed, and who fully appreciated his services and ability, interested himself in the Colonel's behalf. Hearing that Putnam thought of quitting the army in disgust, he wrote him as follows:

*"Headquarters, Newburg, Dec. 2, 1782.*

"SIR: I am informed you have had thoughts of retiring from service, upon an arrangement which is to take place on the 1st of January. But as there will be no opening for it unless your reasons should be very urgent indeed, and as there are some prospects which may, perhaps, make your continuing more eligible than was expected, I have thought proper to mention the circumstances, in expectation that they might have some influence in inducing you to remain in the army. Col. Shepherd having retired, and Brig.-Gen. Patterson being appointed to the command of the first brigade, you will, of consequence, be the second colonel in the line, and have the command of a brigade, while the troops are brigaded as at present. Besides, I consider it expedient you should be acquainted that the question is yet before Congress, whether there shall be two brigadiers appointed in the Massachusetts line. Should you continue, you will be a candidate for this promotion. The Secretary at War is of opinion the promotion will soon take place; whether it will or not I am not able to determine, and, therefore, I would not flatter you too much with expectations which it is not in my power to gratify. But if, upon a view of these circumstances and prospects, the state of your affairs will

permit you to continue in the present arrangement (which must be completed immediately), it will be very agreeable to, sir,

Your most humble servant,

G. WASHINGTON."

"COL. PUTNAM."

On receipt of this letter, Col. Putnam, who was at the time absent on furlough, immediately repaired to camp and reported for duty. On the 8th of January following, he was commissioned a brigadier-general, which position he held during the brief remainder of the war.

The friendship of Washington was extended to Gen. Putnam after he retired from the military service, as was evidenced by his appointment to various offices at different times.

In the summer of 1783, just before the final reduction of the army took place, some two hundred and fifty officers petitioned Congress for a grant of land in the Western country. Gen. Putnam, who was himself personally interested in the measure, and was revolving ideas of emigration, addressed a letter to Washington on the subject, setting forth the plan in some detail, and requesting the latter to use his influence with Congress in favor of the grant. It is an interesting document, as illustrating the difficulties that had then to be dealt with in the subjugation of the Western wilderness, and shows decided ability and foresight on the part of the writer. The letter is as follows:

*"New Windsor, June 16, 1783.*

"SIR: As it is very uncertain how long it may be before the honorable Congress may take the petition of the officers of the army, for lands between the Ohio river and Lake Erie, into consideration, or be in a situation to decide thereon, the going to Philadelphia to negotiate the business with any of its members, or committee to whom the petition may be referred, is a measure none of the petitioners will think of undertaking. The part I have taken in promoting the petition is well known, and, therefore, needs no apology, when I inform you that the signers expect that I will pursue measures to have it laid before Congress. Under these circumstances, I beg leave to put the petition in your Excellency's hands, and ask, with the greatest assurance, your patronage of it. That Congress may not be wholly unacquainted with the motives of the petitioners, I beg your indulgence while I make a few observations on the policy and propriety of granting the prayer of it, and making such arrangements of garrisons in the western quarter as shall give effectual protection to the settlers, and encourage emigration to the new government; which, if they meet your approbation, and the favor be not too great, I must request your Excellency will give them your support, and cause them to be forwarded, with the petition, to the President of Congress, in order that, when the petition is taken up, Congress, or their committee, may be informed on what principles the petition is grounded. I am, sir, among those who consider the cession of so great a tract of territory to the United States, in the western world, as a very happy circumstance, and of great consequence to the American empire. Nor have I the least doubt but Congress will pay an early attention to securing the allegiance of the natives, as well as provide for the defense of the country, in case of a war with

*W. R.*

Great Britain or Spain. One great means of securing the allegiance of the natives, I take to be, the furnishing them with such necessities as they stand in need of, and in exchange receiving their furs and skins. They have become so accustomed to the use of fire-arms, that I doubt if they could gain a subsistence without them, at least they will be very sorry to be reduced to the disagreeable necessity of using the bow and arrow as the only means of killing their game; and so habituated are they to the woollen blanket, etc., etc., that absolute necessity alone will prevent their making use of them.

This consideration alone, is, I think, sufficient to prove the necessity of establishing such factories as may furnish an ample supply to these wretched creatures; for unless they are furnished by the subjects of the United States, they will undoubtedly seek elsewhere, and, like all other people, form their attachment where they have their commerce; and then, in case of war, will always be certain to aid our enemies. Therefore, if there were no advantages in view but that of attaching them to our interests, I think good policy will dictate the measure of carrying on a commerce with these people; but when we add to this the consideration of the profit arising from the Indian trade in general, there can not, I presume, be a doubt that it is the interest of the United States to make as early provision for the encouragement and protection of it as possible. For these and many other obvious reasons, Congress will no doubt find it necessary to establish garrisons in Oswego, Niagara, Michilimackinac, Illinois, and many other places in the western world.

The Illinois, and all the posts that shall be established, on the Mississippi, may undoubtedly be furnished by way of the Ohio, with provisions at all times, and with goods whenever a war shall interrupt the trade with New Orleans. But in case

of a war with Great Britain, unless a communication is open between the river Ohio and Lake Erie, Niagara, Detroit, and all the posts seated on the great lakes, will inevitably be lost without such communication; for a naval superiority on Lake Ontario, or the seizing on Niagara, will subject the whole country bordering on the lakes to the will of the enemy. Such a misfortune will put it out of the power of the United States to furnish the natives, and necessity will again oblige them to take an active part against us.

Where and how this communication is to be opened, shall next be considered. If Capt. Hutchins, and a number of other map-makers, are not out in their calculations, provisions may be sent from the settlements on the south side of the Ohio, by the Muskingum or Scioto to Detroit, or even to Niagara, at a less expense than from Albany by the Mohawk, to those places. To secure such communication (by the Scioto, all circumstances considered, will be the best), let a chain of forts be established; these forts should be built on the banks of the river, if the ground will admit, and about twenty miles distant from each other, and on this plan, the Scioto communication will require ten or eleven stockaded forts, flanked by block-houses, and one company of men will be a sufficient garrison for each, except the one at the portage, which will require more attention in the construction, and a larger number of men to garrison it. But besides the supplying the garrisons on the great lakes with provisions, etc., we ought to take into consideration the protection that such an arrangement will give to the frontiers of Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York. I say New York, as we shall undoubtedly extend our settlements and garrisons from the Hudson to Oswego. This done, and a garrison posted at Niagara, whoever will inspect the map

must be convinced that all the Indians living on the waters of the Mohawk, Oswego, Susquehanna, and Alleghany rivers, and in all the country south of the lakes Ontario and Erie, will be encircled in such a manner as will effectually secure their allegiance and keep them quiet, or oblige them to quit their country.

Nor will such an arrangement of posts from the Ohio to Lake Erie be any additional expense; for, unless this gap is shut, notwithstanding the garrisons on the lakes and from Oswego to the Hudson, yet the frontier settlers on the Ohio, by Fort Pitt to the Susquehanna, and all the country south of the Mohawk will be exposed to savage insult, unless protected by a chain of garrisons which will be far more expensive than the arrangement proposed, and, at the same time, the protection given to these states will be much less complete; besides, we should not confine our protection to the present settlements, but carry the idea of extending them at least as far as the lakes Ontario and Erie.

These lakes form such a natural barrier, that when connected with the Hudson and Ohio by the garrisons proposed, settlements in every part of the states of New York and Pennsylvania may be made with the utmost safety; so, that these states must be deeply interested in the measure as well as Virginia, who will, by the same arrangement, have a great part of its frontier secured, and the rest much strengthened; nor is there a state in the Union but will be greatly benefited by the measure, considered in any other point of view, for, without any expense, except a small allowance of purchase money to the natives, the United States will have within their protection seventeen million five hundred thousand acres of very fine land, to dispose of as they may think proper. But I hasten to men-



tion some of the expectations which the petitioners have respecting the conditions on which they hope to obtain the lands. This was not proper to mention in the body of the petition, especially as we pray for grants to all members of the army who wish to take up lands in that quarter.

The whole tract is supposed to contain about seventeen million four hundred and eighteen thousand two hundred and forty acres, and will admit of seven hundred and fifty-six townships of six miles square, allowing to each township three thousand and forty acres for the ministry, schools, waste lands, rivers, ponds, and highways; then each township will contain, of settlers' lands, twenty thousand acres, and in the whole, fifteen million one hundred and twenty thousand acres. The land to which the army is entitled, by the resolves of Congress, referred to in the petition, according to my estimate, will amount to two million one hundred and six thousand eight hundred and fifty acres, which is about the eighth part of the whole. For the survey of this, the army expect to be at no expense, nor do they expect to be under any obligation to settle these lands, or do any duty to secure their title in them; but in order to induce the army to become actual settlers in the new government, the petitioners hope congress will make a further grant of lands on condition of settlement, and have no doubt but that honorable body will be as liberal to all those who are not provided for by their own states, as New York has been to the officers and soldiers that belong to that state; which, if they do, it will require about eight million acres to complete the army, and about seven million acres will remain for sale. The petitioners, at least some of them, are much opposed to the monopoly of the lands, and wish to guard against large patents being granted to individuals, as, in their opinion, such a

mode is very injurious to a country, and greatly retards its settlement; and whenever such patents are tenanted, it throws too much power into the hands of a few. For these, and many other obvious reasons, the petitioners hope that no grant will be made but by townships of six miles square, or six by twelve, or six by eighteen miles, to be subdivided by the proprietors to six miles square, that being the standard on which they wish all calculations to be made; and that officers and soldiers, as well as those who petition for charters on purchase, may form their associations on one uniform principle, as to number of persons or rights to be contained in a township, with the exception only, that when the grant is made for services already done, or on condition of settlement, if the officers petition, with the soldiers, for a particular township, the soldier shall have one right only to a captain's three, and so in proportion with commissioned officers of every grade.

These, sir, are the principles which gave rise to the petition under consideration; the petitioners, at least some of them, think that sound policy dictates the measure, and that congress ought to lose no time in establishing some such chain of posts as have been hinted at, and in procuring the tract of land petitioned for, of the natives; for, the moment this is done, and agreeable terms offered to the settlers, many of the petitioners are determined not only to become adventurers, but actually to remove themselves to this country; and there is not the least doubt, but other valuable citizens will follow their example, and the probability is that the country between Lake Erie and the Ohio *will be filled with inhabitants*, and the faithful subjects of the United States so established on the waters of the Ohio and the lakes, as to banish forever the idea of our western territory falling under the dominion of any European

power ; the frontiers of the old states will be effectually secured from savage alarms, and the *new* will have little to fear from their insults.

I have the honor to be, sir, with every sentiment, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

RUFUS PUTNAM."

"GEN. WASHINGTON."

It will be noted that Gen. Putnam, in the foregoing letter, suggests townships of six miles square, and the allowance to each township of "3040 acres for the ministry, schools, waste lands, rivers, ponds, and highways." This was, it is believed, the first suggestion of these points, and to Gen. Putnam belongs the honor of devising and first urging these practical and beneficent measures. His advice as to the size of townships was subsequently adopted, and has continued to be the standard of a surveyed township ever since. The other suggestion as to school and ministerial lands was applied to the Ohio Company's and to Symmes's Purchase (on the Miami), but never became of general application.

Washington addressed a communication to congress, strongly approving Gen. Putnam's letter and the application of the officers for a land grant, but no definite action was taken by that body.

In the spring of 1784, Gen. Putnam, who was deeply interested in the matter and anxious to open

the way for the settlement of the Ohio country, again addressed Washington as follows:

"Rutland, April 5th, 1784.

"DEAR SIR: Being unavoidably prevented from attending the general meeting of the *Cincinnati* at Philadelphia, as I had intended, where I once more expected the opportunity in person of paying my respects to your Excellency, I can not deny myself the honor of addressing you by letter, to acknowledge with gratitude the ten thousand obligations I feel myself under to your goodness, and most sincerely to congratulate you on your return to domestic happiness; to inquire after your health, and wish the best of Heaven's blessings may attend you and your dear lady.

The settlement of the Ohio country, sir, engrosses many of my thoughts, and much of my time, since I left the camp, has been employed in informing myself and others, with respect to the nature, situation, and circumstances of that country, and the practicability of removing ourselves there. And, if I am to form an opinion on what I have seen and heard on the subject, there are thousands in this quarter who will emigrate to that country as soon as the honorable congress make provisions for granting lands there, and locations and settlements can be made with safety, unless such provision is too long delayed; I mean till necessity turn their views another way, which is the case with some already, and must soon be the case with many more. You are sensible of the necessity, as well as the possibility of both officers and soldiers fixing themselves in business somewhere, as soon as possible, as many of them are unable to lie longer on their oars, waiting the decision of congress, on our petition, and, therefore,

must unavoidably settle themselves in some other quarter; which, when done, the idea of removing to the Ohio country will probably be at an end, with respect to most of them. Besides, the commonwealth of Massachusetts have come to a resolution to sell their eastern country for public securities, and should their plan be formed, and propositions be made public before we hear anything from congress respecting our petition and the terms on which the lands petitioned for are to be obtained, it will undoubtedly be much against us, by greatly lessening the number of Ohio associates.

Another reason why we wish to know, as soon as possible, what the intentions of congress are respecting our petition, is the effect such knowledge will probably have on the credit of the certificates we have received on settlement of accounts; those securities are now selling at no more than three shillings and six pence, or four shillings on the pound, which, in all probability, might double, if not more, the moment it was known that government would receive them for lands in the Ohio country. From these circumstances, and many others which might be mentioned, we are growing quite impatient, and the general inquiry now is, when are we going to the Ohio? Among others, Brig. Gen. Tupper, Lieut. Col. Oliver, and Maj. Ashley, have agreed to accompany me to that country, the moment the way is open for such an undertaking. I should have hinted these things to some member of congress, but the delegates from Massachusetts, although exceeding worthy men, and, in general, would wish to promote the Ohio scheme, yet, if it should militate against the particular interest of this state, by draining her of inhabitants, especially when she is forming the plan of selling the eastern country, I thought they would not be very warm advocates

in our favor ; and I dare not trust myself with any of the New York delegates, with whom I was acquainted, because that government is wisely inviting the eastern people to settle in that state ; and as to the delegates of other states, I have no acquaintance with any of them.

These circumstances must apologize for my troubling you on this subject, and requesting the favor of a line, to inform us in this quarter, what the prospects are with respect to our petition, and what measures have been or are likely to be taken, with respect to settling the Ohio country.

I shall take it as a very particular favor, sir, if you will be kind enough to recommend me to some character in congress acquainted with and attached to, the Ohio cause, with whom I may presume to open a correspondence.

I am, sir, with the highest respect,

Your humble servant,

RUFUS PUTNAM."

"GEN. WASHINGTON."

In reply to this communication Gen. Putnam received the following letter from Washington :

*"Mount Vernon, June 2d, 1784.*

"DEAR SIR : I could not answer your favor of the 5th of April, from Philadelphia, because Gen. Knox, having mislaid, only presented the letter to me in the moment of my departure from that place. The sentiments of esteem and friendship which breathe in it, are exceedingly pleasing and flattering to me, and you may rest assured they are reciprocal.

"I wish it was in my power to give you a more favorable account of the officers' petition for lands on the Ohio, and

its waters, than I am about to do. After this matter and information respecting the establishment for peace, were my inquiries, as I went through Annapolis, solely directed ; but I could not learn that anything decisive had been done in either.

On the latter, I hear congress are differing about their powers ; but as they have accepted of the cession from Virginia, and have resolved to lay off ten new states,\* bounded by latitudes and longitudes, it should be supposed that they would determine something respecting the former before they adjourn ; and yet I very much question it, as the latter is to happen on the 3rd, that is to-morrow. As the congress who are to meet in November next, by the adjournment will be composed from an entire new choice of delegates in each state, it is not in my power, *at this time*, to direct you to a proper correspondent in that body. I wish I could ; for persuaded I am, that to some such cause as you have assigned, may be ascribed the delay the petition has encountered, for *surely, if justice and gratitude* to the army, and general policy

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\* The plan reported by the committee (consisting of Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Chase, and Mr. Howell) on the 19th of April, 1784, provided for the division of the northwestern territory into ten states, by parallels of latitude and meridian lines. The names of the new states, beginning at the northwest and proceeding southwardly, were to be Sylvania, Michigania, Chersonasus, Assonisipia, Metropotamia, Illinois, Saratoga, Washington, Polypotamia, and Pelisipia. (Journals of Congress, April 23d, 1784.) The report of the committee was debated for several days, during which it underwent very essential changes. Looking at the foregoing list of horrible names, the innocent people of the western states may well tremble at their narrow escape.

of the Union were to govern in this case, there would not be the smallest interruption in granting its request. I really feel for those gentlemen, who, by these unaccountable delays (by any other means than those you have suggested), are held in such an awkward and disagreeable state of suspense, and wish my endeavors could remove the obstacles. At Princeton, before congress left that place, I exerted every power I was master of, and dwelt upon the argument you have used, to show the propriety of a speedy decision. Every member with whom I conversed, acquiesced in the reasonableness of the petition. All yielded, or seemed to yield to the policy of it, but plead the want of cession of the land, to act upon; this is made and accepted; and yet matters, as far as they have come to my knowledge, remain in *statu quo*. \* \* \*

I am, dear sir, with very sincere esteem and regard,

Your most obedient servant,

G. WASHINGTON."

Though his favorite scheme for an organized emigration to the western country failed in 1784, Gen. Putnam was destined not only to witness its success a few years later, but to live to see the most marvelous results of civilization follow the accomplishment of his sagacious policy.

The next few years were spent by Gen. Putnam in part attending to his private affairs and in part discharging the duties of public surveyor and land agent of the state of Massachusetts, in which position he gave entire satisfaction. From 1788 his career was in a great degree identified with the operations of the



Ohio Company, and the colony at Marietta; and we shall, in that connection, obtain further insight into the excellence of his character and the simplicity of his life. He died at Marietta, beloved and mourned by the whole community in May, 1824, at the age of eighty-six.

Timothy Flint, who knew Gen. Putnam personally, said of him, writing in 1828:

“ He was probably the member of the Ohio Company who had the greatest influence in imparting confidence to emigration from New England to Ohio. When he moved there it was one compact and boundless forest. He saw that forest fall on all sides under the axe ; and, in the progress of improvement, comfortable and then splendid dwellings rise around him. He saw his favorite settlement survive the accumulated horrors of an Indian war. He saw its exhaustless fertility and its natural advantages triumph over all. He saw Marietta making advance toward an union of interest with the Gulf of Mexico by floating down to its bosom a number of sea vessels built at that place. He saw such a prodigious increase of navigation on the Ohio as to number a hundred large boats passing his dwelling within a few hours. He heard the first tumult of the steamboats as they began to be borne down between the forests. He had surrounded his republican mansion with orchards bending with fruit. In the midst of rural abundance and endeared friends who had grown up around him ; far from the display of wealth, the bustle of ambition and intrigue, the father of the colony, hospitable and kind without ostentation and without effort, he displayed in these remote regions the grandeur, real

and intrinsic, of those immortal men who achieved our revolution. He has passed away. But the memory of really great and good men, like Gen. Putnam, will remain as long as plenty, independence, and comfort shall prevail on the shores of the Ohio." \*

*Benjamin Tupper.*

Contemporary with Gen. Putnam, and a companion in arms and friend of his, was *Gen. Benjamin Tupper*. Born in 1738 at Stoughton, Massachusetts, of parents whose immediate ancestors came from England, he reached manhood in time to bear arms during the French war, in which he served as a subaltern in the provincial army. In November, 1762, he married Miss Huldah White at Easton, Massachusetts. At the commencement of the Revolutionary war, Tupper, who was then a lieutenant of militia at Chesterfield, ardently espoused the cause of the colonies. The first act of his military career was arresting and adjourning the supreme court, in 1776, which was sitting at Springfield under the royal authority. From this time he served continuously till the close of the war, rendering efficient service to the cause in the various grades which he successively filled, of major, colonel, and brigadier general.

In 1785, after the return of peace, Gen. Tupper sought employment of the government as a surveyor

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\* Flint's Western States, vol. 2, p. 364.

of public lands in the West, under the ordinance of May 20th, 1785, providing for the execution of that work. This appointment had been tendered to Gen. Putnam, who, for private reasons, declined it. He, however, used his influence to secure the office for his friend Tupper, who was appointed by the following resolution of congress:

“ July 18th, 1785.

“ On motion of the delegates from Massachusetts,—

*Whereas*, Mr. Rufus Putnam, appointed a surveyor under the ordinance of the 20th of May, from public engagements with the commonwealth of Massachusetts, can not attend to the business of his appointment during the year: *Resolved*, that Mr. Benjamin Tupper be and hereby is appointed a surveyor, with authority to perform the duties of that office, until Mr. Putnam shall actually join the geographer and take the duties upon himself.” \*

In the autumn of the same year Gen. Tupper started for the northwest, intending to prosecute the land surveys of that region, but, owing to Indian troubles, did not proceed further than the present site of Pittsburg. In the summer of 1786, after the Indians had been temporarily quieted by treaty made in January previous, Gen. Tupper made a second journey to the west, and completed, during that season, the survey of “the seven ranges.”

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\* Journals of Congress, vol. 4, p. 547.

On his return to Massachusetts from his *first* visit to the northwest, during the winter of 1785-6, Gen. Tupper's mind was filled with the idea of removing to the Ohio country — an idea which appeared so visionary to most of his friends that they could not regard it as serious. He, however, was thoroughly in earnest, and knew where to find a person who would enter into his plan. This was his friend Gen. Putnam. Tupper visited him at his residence in Rutland; and thus were brought together again, after the war, the two men who originated the idea of the famous Ohio Company. What they talked of the night of Tupper's visit, history does not wholly record. We fancy them sitting before a blazing fire in the old-fashioned open fire-place, where hickory logs were steaming and sparks flying up the chimney. Putnam's sword and spurs, perhaps, hung on the wall, relics of the late war, and mute reminders of common perils. If the little Putnams were permitted to sit up that evening later than usual, to listen to the conversation, it may, with tolerable certainty, be conjectured that they dreamed of strange western countries, wild men and beasts. Perhaps the elders recounted the trials and adventures of the war; doubtless, they discussed the politics of the day, and the perils that beset the cumbrous and rickety government of the liberated colonies (for the constitution was not yet framed, and those were the dark days of the "confederation"); but one thing we

know of which they discussed long and thoroughly, and that was western land and emigration. The next day their ideas on this subject were so far matured that they united in an advertisement which was published in the newspapers of the state, on the 25th of January, 1786, as follows:

#### “INFORMATION.

“The subscribers take this method to inform all officers and soldiers who have served in the late war, and who are, by a late ordinance of the honorable congress, to receive certain tracts of land in the Ohio country—and also all other good citizens who wish to become adventurers in that delightful region; that from personal inspection, together with other incontestible evidences, they are fully satisfied that the lands in that quarter are of a much better quality than any other known to New England people; that the climate, seasons, products, etc., are in fact equal to the most flattering accounts that have ever been published of them; that being determined to become purchasers and to prosecute a settlement in this country, and desirous of forming a general association with those who entertain the same ideas, they beg leave to propose the following plan, viz: That an association by the name of *The Ohio Company* be formed of all such as wish to become purchasers, etc., in that country who reside in the commonwealth of Massachusetts only, or to extend to the inhabitants of other states as shall be agreed on. In order to bring such a company into existence, the subscribers propose that all persons who wish to promote the scheme, should meet in their respective counties at 10 o'clock A. M. on

Wednesday, the 15th day of February next, and that each county meeting then assembled choose a delegate or delegates, to meet at the Bunch of Grapes Tavern in Boston on Wednesday, the first day of March next at 10 o'clock A. M., then and there to consider and determine on a general plan of association for said company; which plan, covenant, or agreement being published, any person (under condition therein to be provided), may by subscribing his name become a member of the company.

RUFUS PUTNAM,  
BENJAMIN TUPPER."

In response to this call county meetings were held and delegates appointed, who convened at the Bunch of Grapes Tavern, in Boston, March 1st, 1786. The delegates were Winthrop Sargent and John Miles from Suffolk county; Manasseh Cutler from Essex; John Brooks and Thomas Cushing from Middlesex; Benjamin Tupper from Hampshire; Crocker Sampson from Plymouth; Rufus Putnam from Worcester; John Patterson and Jelaliel Woodbridge from Berkshire, and Abraham Williams from Barnstable.

Gen. Rufus Putnam was chosen chairman of the meeting, and Major Winthrop Sargent secretary. We quote from the records of the company:

"From the very pleasing description of the western country given by Generals Putnam and Tupper and others, it appearing expedient to form a settlement there, a motion was made for choosing a committee to prepare the draft of a plan of an

association into a company for the said purpose, for the inspection and approbation of this convention. Resolved in the affirmative.

*Also, resolved* that this committee shall consist of five. Gen. Putnam, Manasseh Cutler, Col. Brooks, Major Sargent, and Capt. Cushing were elected.

On Friday, the 3d of March, the convention met, and the committee reported as follows :

*Articles of Agreement entered into by the Subscribers for constituting an Association by the name of the Ohio Company.*

**PREAMBLE.** The design of this association is to raise a fund in continental certificates, for the sole purpose and to be appropriated to the entire use of purchasing lands in the Western Territory belonging to the United States, for the benefit of the Company, and to promote a settlement in that country.

*Article 1st.* That the fund shall not exceed one million of dollars, in continental specie certificates, exclusive of one year's interest due thereon (except as hereafter provided), and that each share or subscription shall consist of one thousand dollars, as aforesaid, and also ten dollars in gold or silver, to be paid into the hands of such agents as the subscribers may elect.

*Article 2d.* That the whole fund of certificates raised by this association, except one year's interest due thereon mentioned under the first article, shall be applied to the purchase of lands in some one of the proposed states northwesterly of the river Ohio, as soon as those lands are surveyed, and exposed for sale by the commissioners of congress according to the ordinance of that honorable body passed the 20th of May, 1785, or on any other plan that may be adopted by congress, not less

advantageous to the company. The one year's interest shall be applied to the purpose of making a settlement in the country and assisting those who may be otherwise unable to remove themselves thither. The gold and silver is for defraying the expenses of those persons employed as agents in purchasing the lands, and other contingent charges that may arise in the prosecution of the business. The surplus, if any, to be appropriated as the one year's interest on the certificates.

*Article 3d.* That there shall be five directors, a treasurer and secretary, appointed in manner and for the purposes hereafter provided.

*Article 4th.* That the prosecution of the Company's designs may be the least expensive, and at the same time the subscribers and agents as secure as possible, the proprietors of twenty shares shall constitute one grand division of the Company; appoint their agent, and, in case of vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall fill it up as immediately as can be.

*Article 5th.* That the agent shall make himself accountable to each subscriber for certificates and monies received, by duplicate receipts, one of which shall be lodged with the secretary; that the whole shall be appropriated according to these articles of association, and that the subscriber shall receive his just dividend according to quality and quantity of lands purchased, as near as possibly may be, by lot drawn in person or through proxy, and that deeds of conveyance shall be executed to individual subscribers, by the agent, similar to those he shall receive from the directors.

*Article 6th.* That no person shall be permitted to hold more than five shares in the Company's funds, and no subscription for less than a full share will be admitted; but this is not



meant to prevent those who can not or choose not to adventure a full share, from associating among themselves, and by one of their number subscribing the sum required.

*Article 7th.* That the directors shall have the sole disposal of the Company's fund for the purposes before mentioned; that they shall, by themselves, or such person or persons as they may think proper to entrust with the business, purchase lands for the benefit of the Company, where, and in such way, either at public or private sale, as they shall judge will be most advantageous to the Company. They shall also direct the application of the one year's interest, and gold and silver, mentioned in the first article, to the purposes mentioned under the second article, in such way and manner as they shall think proper. For those purposes, the directors shall draw on the treasurer from time to time, making themselves accountable for the application of the moneys, agreeably to this association.

*Article 8th.* That the agents, being accountable to the subscribers for their respective divisions, shall appoint the directors, treasurer and secretary, and fill up all the vacancies which may happen in these offices respectively.

*Article 9th.* That the agents shall pay all the certificates and moneys received from subscribers into the hands of the treasurer, who shall give bonds to the agents, jointly and severally, for the faithful discharge of his trust; and also, on his receiving certificates or moneys from any particular agent, shall make himself accountable therefor, according to the condition of his bonds.

*Article 10th.* That the directors shall give bonds, jointly and severally, to each of the agents conditioned that the certificates and moneys they shall draw out of the treasury shall be applied to the purposes stipulated in these articles; and that the lands

purchased for the Company shall be divided among them within three months from the completion of the purchase, by lot, in such manner as the agents or a majority of them shall agree ; and that, on such division being made, the directors shall execute deeds to the agents, respectively, for the proportions which fall to their divisions, correspondent to those the directors may receive from the commissioners of congress.

*Article 11th. Provided,* That whereas a sufficient number of subscribers may not appear to raise the fund to the sums proposed in the first article, and thereby the number of divisions may not be completed, it is therefore agreed that the agents of divisions of twenty shares each, shall, after the 17th day of October, next, proceed in the same manner as if the whole fund proposed had been raised.

*Article 12th. Provided, also,* That whereas it will be for the common interest of the Company to obtain an ordinance of incorporation from the honorable congress, or an act of incorporation from some one of the states in the Union (for which the directors shall make application), it is therefore agreed that, in case such incorporation is obtained, the fund of the Company (and, consequently, the shares and divisions thereof) may be extended to any sum, for which provision shall be made in said ordinance or act of incorporation, anything in this association to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Article 13th.* That all votes under this association may be given in person, or by proxy, and in numbers justly proportionate to the stock holden, or interest represented."

The foregoing report was adopted March 3, 1786, and subscription books were opened at once. A year passed before a sufficient number of shares were sub-

scribed to justify further steps. On the 8th of March, 1787, a called meeting of the shareholders was held at Brackett's Tavern, in Boston, and Samuel H. Parsons, Gen. Rufus Putnam, and Dr. Manasseh Cutler were appointed directors to make proposals to congress, "for a private purchase of lands, and under such descriptions as they shall deem adequate for the purposes of the Company." Major Winthrop Sargent was elected secretary of the Company. The election of the other two directors (five being the number required) and treasurer was postponed till a future meeting. The directors employed Dr. Manasseh Cutler\* to make a contract with congress for a body of land in the "Great Western territory of the Union."

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\* In an original memorandum concerning the transactions of the Ohio Company, in the handwriting of Dr. Cutler, now before us, he says: "In April, 1787, the directors empowered Gen. Parsons, of Connecticut, to apply to congress for the purchase of lands on the Muskingum river. He petitioned congress, and a committee was appointed to confer with him. To that committee he proposed a purchase on the Scioto river. The proprietors here were generally dissatisfied with the situation and lands on the Scioto, and much preferred the Muskingum. The directors then appointed Sargent and myself agents to go on to congress, and, if possible, make the purchase on Muskingum—which we did. This business was precipitated through fear of other purchasers taking the lands we wished to purchase, as several other companies were making applications to congress at that time. This circumstance occasioned an earlier appointment of a majority of directors, and less formality than there would otherwise have been."

Dr. Cutler left his home in Hamilton, Massachusetts, in June, 1787, for New York, where the congress was then sitting. The constitutional convention, engaged in framing the Federal constitution, was sitting at the same time in Philadelphia, and Dr. Cutler bore letters of introduction to leading men in both cities. His Journal of this trip is before us, and we insert, at length, those portions of it which relate to his negotiations with congress, as a part of the chronicles of the Ohio Company.\* The good Doctor's Journal shows that the art of "lobbying" was not altogether unknown even at that early period of our history. The portions omitted are entirely personal or have no relation whatever to the negotiation.

*Dr. Cutler's Journal.*

"Sunday, June 24, 1787.—Exchanged with Mr. Parsons, of Lynn. After meeting, called on John Carnes, Esq., to receive his commands, if any, for New York. Rode to Cambridge. Spent the evening at Dr. Williams's, in company with Mr. Winthrop, the librarian. Proposed going to President Wil-

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\* For this very interesting document, as for other valuable material, we are indebted to Mrs. Sarah Cutler Dawes, of Washington county, Ohio, a granddaughter of Dr. Cutler. The Journal ought to be published entire; our space only allows such extracts as are here inserted touching the history of the Ohio Company.

lard's (of Harvard College), but the Doctor insisted on my lodging with him, which I did.

*Monday, June 25th.*—Waited on Dr. Willard this morning, who favored me with a number of introductory letters to gentlemen at the southward. Received several from Dr. Williams, and went with him to Boston. Received letters of introduction from Gov. Bowdoin, Mrs. Winthrop, Dr. Warren, Dr. Dexter, Mr. Guild, Mr. Belknap, etc.; conversed with Gen. Putnam; received letters; settled the principles on which I am to contract with Congress for lands on account of the Ohio Company."

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He arrived at Middletown, Connecticut, the residence of Gen. Parsons, on the 30th of June, and the next day, Sunday, preached in that town.

*"Monday, July 2.*—It was nine o'clock this morning before Gen. Parsons and I had settled all our matters, with respect to my business with Congress. He favored me with a large number of letters to members of Congress and other gentlemen in New York.

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*July 5th.* \* \* \* About three o'clock I arrived at the city (New York) by the road that enters the Bowery. Put up my horse at the sign of the Plough and Harrow, in the Bowery Barns. After dressing myself, I took a walk into the city. When I came to examine my letters of introduction, I found them so accumulated that I hardly knew which to deliver

first. As this is rather a curiosity to me, I am determined to preserve a catalogue, although only a part are to be delivered at New York."

Here follows a list of over fifty names, some of them very celebrated, which we omit.

"The first letter I delivered was to Mr. Hugh Henderson. He is a wholesale merchant, and lives in a genteel style on Golden Hill street, New York. Mr. Henderson received me very politely. After tea, he proposed a walk about the city, but first gave me a specimen of Scotch generosity—urged me to take lodgings with him while I tarried in the city, assigned me one of the front chambers, and ordered his servant, Starling, to attend me. After finding that no apology would avail, I accepted his invitation, and his servant was sent for my baggage. We rambled over a considerable part of the city before dark, delivered a number of my letters, and returned and spent the evening very agreeably at Mr. Henderson's.

*Friday, July 6th.*—This morning delivered most of my introductory letters to members of Congress. Prepared my papers for making my application to Congress for the purchase of lands in the western country for the Ohio Company. At eleven o'clock, I was introduced to a number of members on the floor of Congress chamber, in the City Hall, by Colonel Carrington, member from Virginia. Delivered my petition for purchasing lands for the Ohio Company, and proposed terms and conditions of purchase. A committee was appointed to agree on terms of negotiation, and report to Congress. Dined with Mr. Dane.

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*July 7th.*—Paid my respects this morning to Dr. Holton

and several other gentlemen. Was introduced, by Mr. Ewing and Mr. Rittenhouse, to Mr. Hutchins, geographer to the United States. Consulted him where to make our location. Dined with Gen. Knox.

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*Monday, July 9th.*—Waited this morning, very early, on Mr. Hutchins. He gave me the fullest information of the western country, from Pennsylvania to the Illinois, and advised me, by all means, to make our location on the Muskingum, which was decidedly, in his opinion, the best part of the whole western country. Attended the committee before Congress opened, and then spent the remainder of the forenoon with Mr. Hutchins.

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Attended the committee at Congress chamber; debated on terms, but were so wide apart that there appears little prospect of closing a contract. \* \* \* Called again on Mr. Hutchins, consulted him further about the place of location. Spent the evening with Dr. Holton, and several other members of Congress, in Hanover square.

*July 10th.*—This morning, another conference with the committee. As Congress was now engaged in settling the form of government for the Federal territory, for which a bill has been prepared and a copy sent to me (with leave to make remarks and propose amendments), which I had taken the liberty to remark upon, and propose several amendments, I thought this the most favorable time to go on to Philadelphia. Accordingly, after I had returned the bill with my observations, I set out, at seven o'clock."

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The visit to Philadelphia consumed a week. After his return, the Journal continues :

"*July 18th.*—Paid my respects, this morning, to the President of Congress, Gen. St. Clair. Called on a number of my friends. Attended at the City Hall on members of Congress and their committee. We renewed our negotiations.

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*July 19th.*—Called on members of Congress very early in the morning, and was furnished with the ordinance establishing a government in the western Federal territory. It is, in a degree, new modeled. The amendments I proposed have all been made except one, and that is better qualified. It was, that we should not be subject to continental taxation, unless we were entitled to a full representation in Congress. This could not be fully obtained; for it was considered in Congress as offering a premium to emigrants. They have granted us representation, with the right of debating but not of voting, upon our being first subject to taxation. As there are a number in Congress opposed to my terms of negotiation, and some to any contract, I wish now to ascertain the number for and against, and who they are; and must then, if possible, bring the opponents over. This I have mentioned to Col. Duer, who has promised to assist me. Grayson, R. H. Lee, and Carrington are certainly my warm advocates. Holton, I think, may be trusted. Dane must be carefully watched, notwithstanding his professions. Clark, Bingham, Yates, Kearney, and Few are troublesome fellows. They must be attacked by my friends at their lodgings. If they can be brought over, I shall succeed; if not, my business is at an end. Attended the committee this morning. They are determined to make a report to-day, and



try the spirit of Congress. Dined with Gen. Knox and about forty-two gentlemen, officers of the late continental army, and among them Baron Steuben. Gen. Knox gave us an entertainment in the style of a prince. I had the honor to be seated next the Baron, who is a hearty, sociable old fellow. He was dressed in his military uniform, and with the ensigns of nobility, the star and garter. Every gentleman at the table was of the 'Cincinnati,' except myself, and wore his appropriate badges. Spent the evening at Dr. Holton's with Col. Duer and several members of Congress, who informed me that an ordinance was passed in consequence of my petition, but, by their account of it, it will answer no purpose.

*July 20th.*—This morning the Secretary of Congress furnished me with the ordinance of yesterday, which states the conditions of a contract, but on terms to which I shall by no means accede. I informed the committee of Congress that I could not contract on the conditions proposed; that I should prefer purchasing lands from some of the states, who would give incomparably better terms; and therefore proposed to leave the city immediately. They appeared to be sorry no better terms were effected, and insisted on my not thinking of leaving Congress until another attempt was made. I told them I saw no prospect of contracting, and wished to spend no more time and money in a business so unpromising. They assured me that I had many friends in Congress, who would make every exertion in my favor; that it was an object of great magnitude, and that I must not expect to accomplish it in less than two or three months. If I desired it they would take the matter up that day on different grounds, and did not doubt they should obtain terms agreeable to my wishes. Col. Duer came to me with proposals from a number of the principal characters of the city,

to extend our contract and take in another company—but that it should be kept a profound secret.\* He explained the plan they had concerted, and offered me generous conditions if I would accomplish the business for them. The plan struck me agreeably ; Sargent insisted on my undertaking, and both urged me not to think of giving the matter up so soon. I was convinced it was best for me to hold up the idea of giving up a contract with Congress, and making a contract with some of the states, which I did in the strongest terms, and represented to the committee and to Duer and Sargent the difficulties I saw in the way, and the improbability of closing a bargain when we were so far apart ; and told them I conceived it not worth while to say anything further to Congress on the subject. This appeared to have the effect I wished. The committee were mortified, and did not seem to know what to say ; but still urged another attempt. I left them in this state, but afterward explained my views to Duer and Sargent, who fully approved my plan. Promised Duer to consider his proposal. We had agreed last evening to make a party to Brooklyn, on Long Island, which is a small village opposite New York, divided from it by East river. Duer, Webb, Hammond, Sargent, with others, were of the party. When we landed, we ordered a dinner of fried oysters at the Stone House tavern. We took a walk on the highlands, and viewed several of the old forts

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\* This refers to the "Scioto Company," whose French settlement at Gallipolis was one of the most disastrous episodes of the day. The confused and mysterious accounts of it can not, even at this distance of time, be read without lively pity for the sufferings of the poor Frenchmen, and indignation at the authors of their misfortunes. With this, however, neither Dr. Cutler nor the Ohio Company had anything to do. Their action was all in good faith.

erected by the British. Our dinner was elegant. I spent the evening closeted with Colonel Duer, and agreed to purchase more land, if terms can be obtained, for another company, which will probably forward the negotiation.

*Saturday, July 21st.*—Several members of Congress called on me early this morning. They discovered much anxiety about a contract, and assured me that Congress, on finding I was determined not to accept their terms, and had proposed leaving the city, had discovered a much more favorable disposition, and believed, if I renewed my request, I might obtain conditions as reasonable as I desired. I was very indifferent, and talked much of the advantages of a contract with one of the states. This I found had the desired effect. At length I told them that if Congress would accede to the terms I proposed, I would extend the purchase from the tenth township from the Ohio and to the Scioto inclusively; by which Congress would pay more than four millions of the public debt; that our intention was *an actual, a large and immediate settlement* of the most robust and industrious people in America; and that it would be made systematically, which must instantly enhance the value of Federal lands, and prove an important acquisition to Congress. On these terms I would renew the negotiation, if Congress was disposed to take the matter up again. Dined with Gen. Webb, at the Mess House, in Broadway, opposite the Play House. Spent the evening with Mr. Dane and Mr. Milliken. They informed me that Congress had taken up my business again.

*July 23d.*—My friends had made every exertion, in private conversation to bring over my opponents in Congress. In order to get at some of them so as to work powerfully on their minds, we were obliged to engage three or four persons before we could get at them. In some instances we engaged one per-

son, who engaged a second and he a third, and so on to the fourth before we could effect our purpose. In these maneuvers I am much beholden by the assistance of Col. Duer and Major Sargent. The matter was taken up this morning in Congress and warmly debated until three o'clock when another ordinance was obtained.\* This was not to the minds of my friends, who were considerably increased in Congress, but they conceived it to be better than the former, and they had obtained an additional clause empowering the Board of Treasury to take order upon this ordinance and complete the contract on the general principles contained in it, which still left room for negotiation.

Spent the evening with Col. Grayson, and members of Congress from the southward, who were in favor of a contract. Having found it impossible to support Gen. Parsons as a candidate for Governor, after the interest that Gen. St. Clair had secured, and suspecting this might be some impediment in the way (for my endeavors to make interest for him were well known) and the arrangements for civil officers being on the carpet, I embraced this opportunity frankly to declare that for my own part—and ventured to engage for Major Sargent—if Gen. Parsons could have the appointment of First Judge, and Sargent, Secretary, we would be satisfied; and that I heartily wished that His Excellency Gen. St. Clair might be Governor, and that I would solicit the Eastern members to favor such an arrangement. This I found rather pleasing to the Southern members, and they were so complacent as to ask repeatedly what office would be agreeable to me in the Western country. I assured them I wished for no appointment in the civil line. Col. Grayson proposed the office of one of the Judges, which

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\* Ordinance of July 23d.

was seconded by all the gentlemen present. The obtaining an appointment, I observed, had never come into my mind, nor was there any civil office I should, at present, be willing to accept. This declaration seemed to be rather surprising, especially to men who were so much used to solicit or to be solicited for appointments of honor or profit. They seemed to be the more urgent on this head. I observed to them although I wished for nothing for myself, yet I thought the Ohio Company entitled to some attention; that one of our Judges, besides Gen. Parsons, should be of that body, and that Gen. Putnam was the man best qualified, and would be most agreeable to the Company, and gave them his character. We spent the evening very agreeably until a late hour.

*July 24th.*—I received this morning a letter from the Board of Treasury inclosing the resolutions of Congress which passed yesterday and requesting to know whether I was ready to close a contract on those terms. As the contract had now become of much greater magnitude than when I had only the Ohio Company in view, I felt a diffidence in acting alone, and wished Major Sargent to be joined with me, although he had not been formally empowered to act, for the commission from the directors was solely to me. It would likewise take off some part of the responsibility from me if the contract should not be agreeable. After consulting Duer, I proposed it to Sargent who readily accepted. We answered the letters from the Board as jointly commissioned in making the contract. We informed the Board that the terms in the Resolve of Congress were such as we could not accede to, without some variation. We therefore begged leave to state to the Board the terms on which we were ready to close the contract, and that those terms were our *ultimatum*. This letter \* was sent to the Board, but the packet

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\* See Appendix.

having just arrived from England and another to sail next morning, it was not in their power to attend any further to our business for the day. Dined with Mr. Hillegas, Treasurer of the U. S. I spent the evening with Mr. Osgood, President of the Board of Treasury, who appeared very solicitous to be fully informed of our plan. No gentleman has a higher character for planning and calculating than Mr. Osgood ; I was therefore much pleased with having an opportunity of fully explaining it to him. We were, unfortunately, interrupted with company ; we, however, went over the outlines and he appeared to be well disposed.

*July 25th.*—This morning the Board of Treasury sent our letter to the Secretary of Congress, requesting him to lay it before Congress for their approbation or rejection. But the dispatches from Europe, received yesterday by the British packet, occupied the attention of Congress for the day. Mr. Osgood desired me to dine with him, assuring me that he had purposely omitted inviting any other company, that we might not be interrupted in going over our plan. I had been repeatedly assured that Mr. Osgood was my friend, and that he had censured Congress for not assenting to the terms I had offered ; but, such is the intrigue and artifice often practiced by men in power, I felt very suspicious and was as cautious as possible. Our plan, however, I had no scruple to communicate and went over it in all its parts.

Mr. Osgood made many valuable observations. The extent of his information astonished me. His views of the continent of Europe were so enlarged that he appeared to be a perfect master of every subject of this kind. He highly approved of our plan, and told me he thought it the best formed in America. He dwelt much on the advantages of system in a new settle-

ment—said system had never before been attempted ; that we might depend on accomplishing our purposes in Europe, and that it was a most important part of our plan. If we were able to establish a settlement as we proposed, however small in the beginning, we should then have surmounted our greatest difficulty ; that every other object would be within our reach, and, if the matter was pursued with spirit, he believed it would prove one of the greatest undertakings ever yet attempted in America. He thought Congress would do an especial service to the United States even if they gave us the land, rather than that our plan should be defeated, and promised to make every exertion in his power in my favor. We spent the afternoon and evening alone and very agreeably.

*July 26th.*—This morning I accompanied Gen. St. Clair and Gen. Knox on a tour of morning visits, particularly to the Foreign Ministers.

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It being now eleven o'clock Gen. St. Clair was obliged to attend Congress. After we came into the street, Gen. St. Clair assured us he would make every possible exertion to prevail with Congress to accept the terms contained in our letter. He appeared much interested and very friendly, but said we must expect opposition. I was fully convinced that it was good policy to give up Parsons, and openly to appear solicitous that St. Clair might be appointed Governor. Several gentlemen have told me that our matters went on much better since St. Clair and his friends had been informed that we had given up Parsons, and that I had solicited the Eastern members in favor of St. Clair's appointment. I immediately went to Sargent and Duer. We now entered into the true spirit of negotiation with great bodies. Every machine

in the city that it was possible to set to work we now put in motion. Few, Bingham, and Kearney are our principal opposers. Of Few and Bingham there is hope, but to bring over that stubborn mule of a Kearney is beyond our power. The Board of Treasury, I think, will do us much service, if Dr. Lee is not against us—though Duer assures me that I have got the length of his foot, and that he calls me a frank, open, honest New England man, which he considers as an uncommon animal; yet from his jealous, cautious make, I feel suspicious of him, especially as Mr. Osgood tells me that he has made every attempt to learn his sentiments but is unable to do so. His brother, Richard Henry Lee, is certainly our fast friend, and we have hopes he will engage him in our interests. Dined with Sir John Temple in company with several gentlemen. Immediately after dinner I took my leave of them and called on Dr. Holton. He told me Congress had been warmly engaged in our business the whole day; that the opposition was lessened, but our friends did not think it prudent to come to a vote, lest there should not be a majority in favor. I felt much discouraged and told Dr. Holton I thought it in vain to wait any longer, and should certainly leave the next day. He cried out on my impatience; said if I obtained my purposes in a month from that time, I should be far more expeditious than was common in getting much smaller matters through Congress; that it was of great magnitude for it far exceeded any private contract ever made before in the United States; that if I should fail now I ought still to pursue the matter, for I should most certainly finally obtain the object I wished. To comfort me, he assured me it was impossible for him to conceive by what kind of address I had so soon and so warmly engaged the attention of Congress; for since he had been a member of that body he



assured me, on his honor, that he never knew so much attention paid to any one person who made application to them on any kind of business, nor did he ever know them more pressing to bring it to a close. He could not have supposed that any three men from New England, even of the first characters, could have accomplished so much in so short a time. This, I believe, was mere flattery, though it was delivered with a very serious air; but it gave some consolation. I now learned very nearly who were for and who against the terms. Bingham has come over, but Few and Kearney are stubborn. Unfortunately there are only eight states represented, and, unless seven of them are in favor, no ordinance can pass.\* Every moment of this evening until two o'clock was busily employed. A warm siege was laid on Few and Kearney from different quarters, and, if the point is not effectually carried, the attack is to be renewed in the morning. Duer, Sargent, and myself have agreed that if we fail, Sargent shall go on to Maryland, which is not at present represented, and prevail on the members of that state to come on, and interest themselves, if possible, in our plan. I am to go on to Connecticut and Rhode Island to solicit the members from those states to go on to New York, and to lay an anchor to windward with them. As soon as those states are represented, Sargent is to renew the application, and I have promised Duer that, if it be found necessary I will then return to New York again.

*Friday, July 27th.*—I rose very early this morning, and after adjusting my baggage (for I was determined to leave New York this day), I set out on a general morning visit and paid my respects to all the members of Congress in the city, and

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\* At this time the vote in Congress was taken by states, each state having but one vote.

informed them of my intention to leave the city that day. My expectations of forming a contract, I told them, were nearly at an end. I should, however, wait the decision of Congress, and if the terms which we had stated and which I considered to be very advantageous to Congress, considering the state of the country, were not accepted, we must turn our attention to some other part of the country. New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts would sell us lands at half a dollar an acre, and give us exclusive privileges beyond what we had asked of Congress. The speculating plan concerted between the British of Canada and the New Yorkers was now well known. The uneasiness of the Kentucky people with respect to the Mississippi was notorious. A revolt of that country from the Union, if a war with Spain took place, was universally acknowledged to be highly probable; and most certainly a systematic settlement in that country, conducted by men strongly attached to the Federal Government and composed of young, robust, hardy, and active laborers, who had no idea of any other than the Federal Government, I conceived to be an object worthy of some attention. Besides, if Congress rejected the terms now offered, there could be no prospect of any application from any other quarter. If a fair and honorable purchase could now be obtained, I presumed contracts with the natives similar to that made with the Six Nations, must be the consequence, especially as it might be much more easily carried into effect. These, and such like, were the arguments I urged. They seemed to be fully acceded to, but whether they will avail is very uncertain. Mr. R. H. Lee assured me he was prepared for one hour's speech, and he hoped for success. All urged me not to leave the city so soon, but I assumed an air of perfect indifference and persisted in my determination, which had, apparently, the effect I wished. Passing

the City Hall as the members were going into Congress, Col. Carrington told me he believed Few was secured ; that little Kearney was left alone, and that he was determined to make one trial of what *he* could do in Congress. Called on Sir John Temple for letters to Boston. Bid my friends good bye, and, as it was my last day, Mr. Henderson insisted on my dining with him and a number of his friends whom he had invited.

At half past three, I was informed that an ordinance had passed Congress on the terms stated in our letter, without the least variation, and that the Board of Treasury was directed to *take order and close the contract*. This was agreeable but unexpected intelligence. Sargent and I went immediately to the Board, who had received the ordinance, but were then rising. They urged me to tarry the next day, and they would put by all other business to complete the contract ; but I found it inconvenient, and after making a general verbal adjustment, left it with Sargent to finish what was to be done at present. Dr. Lee congratulated me, and declared he would do all in his power to adjust the terms of the contract, so far as was left to them, as much in our favor as possible. I proposed three months for collecting the first half million of dollars, and for executing the instruments of contract, which was acceded to. By this ordinance we obtained the grant of near five millions of acres of land, amounting to three and a half million dollars. One million and a half acres for the Ohio Company, and the remainder for a private speculation, in which many of the principal characters in America are concerned. Without connecting this speculation, similar terms and advantages could not have been obtained for the Ohio Company. On my return through Broadway, I received the congratulations of a number

of my friends in Congress, and others, with whom I happened to meet."

Dr. Cutler left New York on the evening of this day—the 27th of July. On his homeward journey, he again called on Gen. Parsons at his home in Connecticut.

"When I had informed the General of my negotiations with Congress, I had the pleasure to find it not only met his approbation, but he expressed his astonishment that I had obtained terms so advantageous, which, he said, were beyond his expectation. He assured me he preferred the appointment of first judge to that of governor, especially if Gen. St. Clair was governor. He proposed writing to Gen. St. Clair and his friends in Congress, that they would procure an appointment for me on the same bench; but I absolutely declined, assuring him I had no wish to go in the civil line." \*

On the 26th of July, Dr. Cutler and Mr. Sargent

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\* In an original memorandum, now before us, written by Dr. Cutler many years later, he says :

"On the 29th of August, 1787, I made a report to the directors and agents at a meeting in Boston, of the purchase and terms agreed upon by the Board of Treasury, and Sargent and myself. At this meeting a great number of the proprietors attended, all of whom fully approved of the proposed contract. Gen. Varnum was elected a director, and Richard Platt treasurer. Sargent and myself were directed to proceed to New York immediately, to make the first payment and complete the contract. At this meeting, Gen. Parsons and Gen. Varnum, two gentlemen eminent in the law, were requested to prepare the bonds for the directors and treasurer to execute. They did so."

had addressed a letter to the Board of Treasury, proposing to enter into a contract for the purchase of the lands described in the ordinance of July 23d.\* On the 27th, their letter was referred by Congress to the Board of Treasury "to take order," but the contract was not finally executed till October 27th, 1787.

Of the grant thus obtained, amounting to nearly five million acres of land, only one million and a half were for the Ohio Company; and, owing to certain embarrassments in its affairs, the company finally became possessed of only nine hundred and sixty-four thousand two hundred and eighty-five acres. The whole tract bargained for by the Ohio Company for themselves is thus described: "From the seventh range of townships, extending along the Ohio southwesterly to the place where the west line of the seventeenth range of townships would intersect that river; thence northerly so far that a line drawn due east to the western boundary of said seventh range of townships would, with the other lines, include one million and a half acres of land, besides the reserves." These reserves were two townships for the purposes of a university, and the school and ministerial sections in each township. †

There has been a good deal of criticism about the alleged bad location of the Ohio Company's purchase,

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\* See Letter, Appendix.

† For what they finally came in possession of, see Appendix.

and some have held that they showed great lack of judgment in the matter. Why, it has been asked, did they choose the hilly and unattractive lands lying on the Hockhocking and the Raccoon, when they might as easily have selected the broad and fertile plains in the southwestern part of the state?

There were weighty considerations at the time of the purchase to justify the wisdom of their location. First, they had the protection of Fort Harmar, a well-established military post, garrisoned by government troops. Secondly, they were influenced by the remoteness of the Indian tribes, who had no fixed habitations in this region, and whose visits thither, though full of danger to the settlers and much dreaded, might be expected to be comparatively rare. They were also contiguous to Western Virginia, where the whites had some settlements pretty well advanced. Moreover, there is evidence that they knew of the existence, to some extent, of coal, salt, and iron, within the territory selected; and, finally, it was then believed that the communication between the Ohio river and Lake Erie, would be through the Cuyahoga and Muskingum rivers, and that a great trade would eventually grow up, flowing westwardly from the Potomac and James rivers, across the mountains and down the Kanawha. It is needless to say that not all of these considerations were well founded.

It is entirely clear from Dr. Cutler's Journal, that Thomas Hutchins, the "government geographer,"

had a great deal to do in deciding the location, if, indeed, his advice was not conclusive. He had formerly been a captain in the army, and had accompanied Col. Bouquet's celebrated expedition against the Indians, in 1764, as a military engineer. He wrote "A Description of the Ohio, Scioto, Kanawha, Wabash, and Illinois Rivers," which was published in London in 1778; also, "An Account of Florida, Louisiana, the Mississippi," etc., published at Philadelphia, 1784. He had traveled much through the western country, and had closely noted the comparative advantages of different regions. He advised Dr. Cutler, "by all means to make the location on the Muskingum." Mr. Hutchins's recommendation probably referred to the rich bottom lands on the upper Muskingum, a region at that time greatly exposed to Indian depredations. His advice was, however, followed to the extent of locating the Company's chief town at the mouth of the Muskingum, and extending the purchase from there southwestwardly into the interior and along the Ohio river.

The writer of a "View of Ohio" (*Am. Quar. Rev.* for March, 1833, p. 100), referring to this subject, says:

"The Ohio Company had their first choice within this rich and ample domain, but unfortunately selected the poorest tract in its whole compass. An anecdote is told, which, if true, would seem to indicate that their shrewdness, for once, over-

reached itself. It is said that when the party arrived at Wheeling, on their way to the settlement, they met with Ebenezer Zane, afterward the proprietor of Zanesville, and at that time familiar with the Ohio country. They asked his opinion as to the best place of location, and he, in honest simplicity, named several, either of which would have verified his recommendation. He did *not*, however, mention the tract about the mouth of the Muskingum. What could be the reason? Possibly he had an eye to it himself, and, if so, it must be the best. The party at once took up their line of march, and, without looking further, planted themselves there."

Thus, according to this writer, securing the region coveted because old Zane had not mentioned it.

This anecdote is quite incredible, for the palpable reason that the location had been decided upon, and even the plan for a city at the mouth of the Muskingum adopted, before the party left New England, or ever met Col. Zane.

Another version is given of Col. Zane's possible influence in fixing the location. General Samuel H. Parsons, one of the Ohio Company's directors, who strongly urged the location between the Muskingum and Scioto, had been appointed by the old congress a commissioner to treat with the Indian tribes of the west, and in the discharge of this duty, visited that country in 1785 and '6. A writer in the *North American Review* (vol. 47), who states that his information was received direct from Gen. Putnam, says:



"After Gen. Parsons had examined the country immediately about the junction of the Muskingum with the Ohio, he proceeded up the valley of the former that he might have a view of the interior. Having gone many miles, he met one of the Zanes, four of which family were among the most noted of the frontier rangers. Zane was probably engaged in salt making, at Salt creek, which runs into the Muskingum about ten miles below the present town of Zanesville. Parsons, well knowing that the man he had chanced upon knew, from an acquaintance of fifteen years or more, the whole of what now forms the state of Ohio, asked his advice touching the location of the purchase which the Ohio Company proposed to make. Zane, having pondered the matter, and consulted with some of the old Delaware Indians that lived thereabout, recommended the General to choose either the Miami country or the valley of the Scioto, in preference to that which he was then examining. What it was that made Parsons doubt the good faith of the pioneer, we know not; but he came to the conclusion that Zane really preferred the Muskingum to any other point, and wished to purchase it himself, when the sales should begin, in a few months. This impression did away what little doubt still remained in his mind; and returning to the east, he laid his proposal to contract with Congress for all the land along the Ohio, between the seventh range of townships and the Scioto, and running back as might be afterward agreed upon, before the directors of the Company of Associates."

There may be some foundation for this anecdote, thus reiterated, but it appears doubtful.

After all, the location was not the worst that might have been made. The purchase undoubtedly included

a large amount of rough and broken land; but it also included many tracts of beautiful farming country, well watered, well timbered, healthful, and fertile. And whatever reasons were wanting fifty years ago to justify the wisdom of the location, have been furnished in later days by the solid agricultural growth of the counties included in the purchase, and by their great and rapidly developing mineral wealth. Agricultural interests are ever the earliest to be developed; but, in the long run, the mineral resources of a country are equally important to its wealth and supporting power. The vast deposits of coal and iron in Athens county and adjacent regions, are but just beginning to be utilized, and the time may yet come when the "Ohio Company's Purchase," which they were laughed at for selecting, and which, in later years, has been stigmatized as the "Huckleberry Knobs," will support a swarming population. Those hills will some day smoke with forges, foundries, and manufactories of iron. They will be honey-combed with innumerable tunnels, from which will be taken the precious deposits of coal there concealed, and a million freemen may yet inhabit those counties, which, while their wealth lay hidden, were disregarded for more fertile parts, but which, when developed, will furnish forth the wealth of an empire.

## CHAPTER III.

From 1787 to 1796.

THEIR purchase being now fully consummated and the Company having been put in immediate possession of seven hundred and fifty thousand acres, they at once began to arrange details and prepare for emigration. A meeting of the directors and agents of the Company was held at Brackett's Tavern, in Boston, on the 21st of November, 1787, at which it was

*“Resolved,* That the lands of the Ohio Company may be allotted and divided in the following manner, anything to the contrary in former resolutions notwithstanding, viz: four thousand acres near the confluence of the Ohio and Muskingum rivers for a city and commons, and, contiguous to this, one thousand lots of eight acres each, amounting to eight thousand acres.

Upon the Ohio, in fractional townships, one thousand lots of one hundred and sixteen acres and  $\frac{43}{100}$ , amounting to one hundred and sixteen thousand four hundred and eighty acres.

In the townships on the navigable rivers, one thousand lots of three hundred and twenty acres each, amounting to three hundred and twenty thousand acres.

And in the inland towns, one thousand lots of nine hundred and ninety-two acres each, amounting to nine hundred and ninety-two thousand acres, to be divided and allotted as the agents shall hereafter direct.

*Resolved, further,* That there be the following reservations, viz: one township at the falls of the Great Hockhocking river; one township at the mouth of the Great or Little river of that name; and one township opposite to the mouth of the Great Kanawha river; which reservations may hereafter be allotted and divided as the directors and agents shall see fit.

*Resolved,* That the army bounty rights be considered in part payment of the shares of military associates in the ratio of one dollar to every acre to which they are entitled; and that this rule be observed by the agents of the subscribers in rendering their returns, and by the agents appointed by the directors for the second payment to the Board of Treasury.

*Resolved,* That no further subscriptions be admitted after the 1st day of January next, and that all interest arising on sums paid since the payment of the first half million to the Board of Treasury, until the second payment be completed, shall accrue to the benefit of the Company's funds; and that the agents pay all the money they may have in their possession into the treasury of the Company by the 1st day of March next.

*Resolved,* That the eight-acre lots be surveyed and a plat or map thereof be made, with each lot numbered thereon, by the first Wednesday in March next, and that a copy thereof be immediately forwarded to the secretary and the original retained by the Company's superintendent; that the agents meet on the same Wednesday in March, at Rice's Tavern, in Providence, State of Rhode Island, to draw for said lots in numbers as the same shall be stated upon the plat; that a list of the drawings be

transmitted by the secretary to the superintendent, and a copy thereof preserved in the secretary's office.

*Resolved*, That this meeting of the directors and agents of the Ohio Company be and it is hereby adjourned to the first Wednesday in March, 1788, to be then holden at Rice's Tavern in the town of Providence and State of Rhode Island."\*

Much of the foregoing resolutions relative to the allotments, division, and reservations of land, became of no effect, because, as before stated, the Company finally came in possession of only nine hundred and sixty-four thousand two hundred and eighty-five acres.

Prior to the March meeting, above ordered, a meeting was held on the 23d of November at Brackett's Tavern, when it was

*" Ordered*, That four surveyors be employed under the superintendent hereinafter named ; that twenty-two men shall attend the surveyors ; that there be added to this number twenty men, including six boat-builders, four house-carpenters, one blacksmith and nine common workmen :

That the boat-builders shall proceed on Monday next, and the surveyors shall rendezvous at Hartford, the 1st day of January next, on their way to the Muskingum :

That the boat-builders and men, with the surveyors, be proprietors in the company ; that their tools and one axe and

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\* Journals of the Ohio Company.

one hoe to each man and thirty pounds weight of baggage, shall be carried in the company's wagons, and the subsistence of the men on their journey be furnished by the company.

That upon their arrival at the places of destination, and entering on the business of their employment, the men shall be subsisted by the company and allowed wages at the rate of four dollars each, per month, until discharged.

That they be held in the company's service until the first day of July next, unless sooner discharged, and that if any of the persons employed shall leave the service, or willfully injure the same, or disobey the orders of the superintendent, or others acting under him, the person so offending shall forfeit all claim to wages.

That their wages shall be paid the next autumn, in cash, or lands, upon the same terms as the company purchased them. That each man furnish himself with a good small arm, bayonet, six flints, a powder-horn and pouch, priming-wire and brush, half a pound of powder, one pound of balls, and one pound of buckshot. The men so engaged shall be subject to the orders of the superintendent, and those he may appoint, as aforesaid, in any kind of business they shall be employed in, as well for boat building and surveying, as for building houses, erecting defences, clearing land, and planting, or otherwise, for promoting the settlement; and, as there is a probability of interruption from enemies, they shall also be subject to orders as aforesaid in military command, during the time of their employment.

That Col. Ebenezer Sproat, from Rhode Island, Mr. Anselm Tupper and Mr. John Matthews, from Massachusetts, and Col. R. J. Meigs, from Connecticut, be the surveyors.

That Gen. Rufus Putnam be the superintendent of all the business aforesaid, and he is to be obeyed and respected accordingly; that he be allowed for his services forty dollars a month and his expenses, to commence from the time of his leaving home."

The next meeting was held March 5th, 1788, at Rice's Tavern, in Providence, Rhode Island. At this meeting, the drawing for lots in the new city took place, as had been previously ordered. A committee was also appointed, consisting of the Rev. Dr. Cutler, Col. May, and Gen. Varnum, "to consider and report upon the expediency of employing some suitable person as a public teacher at the settlement now making by the Ohio Company." The committee reported:

"That the directors be requested to pay as early attention as possible to the education of youth and the promotion of public worship among the first settlers; and that, for these important services, they employ, if practicable, an instructor eminent for literary accomplishments and the virtue of his character, who shall also superintend the first scholastic institutions and direct the manner of instruction; and to enable the directors to carry into execution the intentions expressed in this resolution, the proprietors, and others of benevolent and liberal minds, are earnestly requested to contribute, by voluntary donation, to the forming of a fund to be solely appropriated thereto."

The report being approved, the directors authorized Dr. Cutler to employ some suitable person, who should

discharge the double functions of preacher and teacher. Thus early and clearly did the founders of the new state recognize the fact that republican institutions are based on the intelligence and virtue of the people, and that there can be no liberty without light. Dr. Cutler engaged the Rev. Daniel Story, a young minister then preaching at Worcester, Massachusetts; and to him belongs the distinguished honor of being *the first regularly ordained Congregational minister* in all the territory northwest of the Ohio river.\*

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\* See ordination sermon, preached by the Rev. Dr. Cutler, Aug. 15, 1798. Appendix, H.

The following extract is from a letter of Dr. Cutler to Gen. Putnam, now before us :

“ Ipswich, November 18, 1788.

“ DEAR SIR : This will be handed you by Mr. Daniel Story, whom I beg leave to introduce to your acquaintance in character of a preacher, and who, I hope, will be very agreeable to you and to the people. He has ever supported a respectable character in private life and as a minister of the Gospel. The terms on which he goes into the country are, that his board be given him ; that he draw from the funds, raised to support preaching four dollars, in silver, per week ; that he be permitted to improve, if he pleases, a part of the lands, near the city, granted for religious purposes ; that the people be requested to assist in clearing and cultivating, so far at least as shall render his pay equal to five dollars per week ; and that he be allowed a reasonable compensation for his expenses in going into the country. These were the lowest terms on which he would consent to go. He could have his board and five dollars a week here, and constant employ. As he must lose several Sabbaths in going into the country, he conceived it reasonable that he should have a consideration for his expenses. There was no other person of respectable character, whom I could engage on better terms. This is to be



Pursuant to the orders of the directors, the boat-builders and mechanics, under the command of Major Haffield White, rendezvoused at Danvers, Massachusetts, in December, 1787. The party consisted of twenty-two men. The arrangements being completed they set out for Sumrill's Ferry, on the Youghio-gheny river, about thirty miles above Pittsburg, where it was intended to build boats, and proceed thence by water. After a long and difficult journey, they reached this point toward the last of January, and immediately began their work of boat building.

Meanwhile, the surveyors with their attendants, and the remainder of the pioneer party, having met at Hartford, Connecticut, early in January, 1788, commenced their march westward, under the command of Gen. Rufus Putnam, assisted by Col. Ebenezer Sproat. When they reached the mountains, it was found that the great depth of snow there rendered the crossing impossible, save by the use of sleds, which were accordingly constructed, and the baggage by this means transported over the Alleghanies, and on to Sumrill's

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his pay until other terms shall be agreed on between him and the directors, or the people, or till he shall continue no longer to preach to them.

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I have requested Col. Platt to forward a sum raised for the support of preachers and schoolmasters, to the directors at Muskingum, of two hundred dollars, if he has so much on hand, which will enable you to pay the preacher and schoolmaster for the present. I have advanced to Mr. Story six dollars and two thirds, on account, which you will deduct from his wages."

Ferry, the general rendezvous, where Putnam's party arrived about the middle of February.

With the working force thus largely increased, and urged on by the energetic superintendence of Gen. Putnam in person, the boat building, which had lagged somewhat, owing to the severity of the weather, now progressed rapidly.

On the 2d of April, 1788, the largest boat was launched, and the pioneers left Sumrill's. In addition to the large boat, forty-five feet long and twelve wide, which was roofed over, and had an estimated capacity of fifty tons, there were a flatboat and three canoes. Laden with the emigrants, their baggage, surveying instruments, weapons, and effects, the little flotilla glided down the Youghiogheny into the Monongahela, and finally out upon the broad bosom of the Ohio, which stream was to bear them to their new home. For several days and nights they pursued their solitary travel, urged along only by the current of the beautiful river, whose banks gave no signs of civilized life, nor of welcome to the pioneers. Occasionally, a flock of wild turkeys in the underbrush, or a startled deer, drinking at the water's edge, would draw the fire of the riflemen from the boats; and now and then the dusky form of an Indian would be seen darting into the forest. But the emigrants met with no interruption.

On the fifth day they approached their destination. It was cloudy and raining as they drew near the mouth of the Muskingum, and Capt. Jonathan Devol was

gested to Gen. Putnam that a close look-out be kept as they must be near their landing-place. In a few moments they came within sight of Fort Harmar (a U. S. fort erected in 1785), located at the mouth and on the right bank of the Muskingum. The hanging branches of the trees on the bank of the river, combined with the foggy atmosphere, that day, partially obscured the river's mouth, so that the boat floated almost beyond it before it was discovered. They could not regain the upper bank of the Muskingum, and were obliged to make fast a little way below Fort Harmar. The commander of the fort sent some soldiers to their aid, and the boat was towed back with ropes and across the Muskingum, where it landed, at the upper point, about noon on the 7th of April, 1788, and from that day Ohio dates her existence.

The pioneers immediately began to unload their effects. The boards which they had brought with them for the erection of temporary huts were landed and properly disposed, and a comfortable tent was at once set up for the use of Gen. Putnam. In this tent he had his headquarters and transacted the business of the colony for several months, until the block-houses were ready for occupancy.

The following is a list of the first party of emigrants to the territory northwest of the Ohio, who became the founders of Marietta, and the first settlers of Washington and Athens counties, viz:

Gen. Rufus Putnam, superintendent; Col. Ebenezer Sproat, Col. R. J. Meigs, Maj. Anselm Tupper, and Mr. John Matthews, surveyors; Maj. Haffield White, steward and quartermaster; Capt. Jonathan Devol, Capt. Josiah Munroe, Capt. Daniel Davis, Peregrine Foster, Capt. Jethro Putnam, Capt. William Gray, Capt. Ezekiel Cooper, Jervis Cutler, Samuel Felshaw, Hezekiah Flint, Hezekiah Flint, jr., Amos Porter, Josiah Whitridge, John Gardiner, Benjamin Griswold, Elizur Kirkland, Samuel Cushing, Oliver Dodge, Isaac Dodge, Jabez Barlow, Daniel Bushnell, Ebenezer Corry, Phineas Coburn, Allen Putnam, David Wallace, Joseph Wells, Gilbert Devol, jr., Israel Danton, Jonas Davis, Theophilus Leonard, Joseph Lincoln, William Miller, Earl Sproat, Josiah White, Allen Devol, Henry Maxon, William Maxon, William Moulton, Edmund Moulton, Simeon Martin, Benjamin Shaw, and Peletiah White.

The situation of the colonists was now interesting and critical. Lodged in the midst of a vast wilderness, many hundred miles from home and from the protecting care of government, surrounded by bands of hostile savages, who, though quiet at present, were apt to become deadly foes at any moment; and but scantily supplied with the means of living, the brave pioneers had need of all their energies to prepare for the future. No time was lost in providing for the protection and comfortable subsistence of the colony. General Put-

nam immediately began the erection of a fort, near the Muskingum river, comprising a block-house, and other means of defense, which was afterward, during periods of Indian hostilities, crowded with families, and became of the utmost importance. The gigantic trees of the forest were girdled and deadened, the rich soil easily prepared for seeding, and about one hundred and thirty acres of corn were planted this first spring. The rivers abounded with fish; game of every sort was found in the greatest plenty; herds of buffaloes and deer roamed the forests, and innumerable flocks of wild turkeys were added to supply the settlement with fresh meat.

The day after their landing, the surveyors commenced laying off lots, and preparing for the expected arrival of other emigrants. The officers of the territory not having yet arrived, a series of regulations or laws for the temporary government of the community was prepared and promulgated by being nailed to the trunk of a large tree on the river bank. This code was rigidly observed till other laws were regularly enacted, and under it the peace of the settlement was never once disturbed. All was energy, industry, prosperity, and hopefulness for the future. Well might Washington write:

“No colony in America was ever settled under such favorable auspices as that which has just commenced at the Muskingum. Information, property, and strength will be its characteristics. I know many of the settlers personally, and there

never were men better calculated to promote the welfare of such a community." \*

The little city at the mouth of the Muskingum was first called *Adelphia*. There were some men of classical education among the directors, and a harmless pedantry was evinced in some of the names adopted by them. Thus the large public square was called *Quadranaon*, and the smaller one the *Capitolium*. The wide road, leading up from the river landing to the square, was named *Sacra via*, and the fort, with its inclosure of block-houses, etc., was called *Campus Martius*. At a meeting of the directors, held on the 2d of July, 1788, which was the first convened west of the mountains, the name of the city was changed by the following resolution: †

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\* Sparks's Washington, vol. 9, p. 385.

† The original name was suggested by Dr. Cutler. In a letter to Gen. Putnam, dated Ipswich, December 3, 1787, after speaking of the affairs of the company, and the best means of forwarding letters to and from the settlement, Dr. Cutler says:

"Saying so much about conveying of letters, reminds me of the necessity of a name for the place where you will reside. I doubt not you will early acquire the meaning of Muskingum; or you may meet with some other name that will be agreeable. At present, I must confess, I feel a partiality for the name proposed at Boston, and think it preferable to any that has yet been mentioned. I think that *Adelphia* will, upon the whole, be the most eligible. It strictly means *Bretbren*, and I wish it may ever be characteristic of the Ohio Company."

“*Resolved*, That the city near the confluence of the Ohio and Muskingum be called *Marietta*; that the directors write to his Excellency, the Count Moustiers (French Minister), informing him of their motives in naming the city, and request his opinion whether it will be advisable to present to her Majesty of France a public square.”

The name is compounded from that of the unfortunate young queen of France, Marie Antoinette, who had manifested a constant friendship for the United States during the Revolutionary war.

While the infant colony of the Ohio Company is being thus auspiciously planted, and the herculean task of subduing the wilderness well begun, let us glance at the measures taken by congress to establish government, law, and order within the territory.

The settlement at the mouth of the Muskingum was made before the arrival in the territory of the governor and judges. Congress, however, had organized the territorial government soon after the passage of the ordinance of 1787. Gen. Arthur St. Clair was appointed governor, his commission bearing date February 1, 1788, and to run for three years. He was a citizen of Pennsylvania, had been a distinguished officer in the Revolutionary army, and president of congress, and stood high in the confidence of Washington.

Samuel H. Parsons, of Connecticut, James M. Varnum, of Massachusetts (both of whom were directors

in the Ohio Company), and John Cleves Symmes, of New Jersey, were appointed judges; and Winthrop Sargent, of New Hampshire (secretary of the Ohio Company), was appointed secretary of the territory. The judges arrived in June, and on the 9th of July, 1788, Governor St. Clair reached Marietta. He was escorted by a detachment of troops, under Major Doughty, who had gone up to Pittsburg, from Fort Harmar, some days before to meet the governor, and was received at the fort with military honors and salute. Joseph Buell, who was an orderly sergeant at the time, in one of the companies of United States troops in the fort, kept a journal, in which he says:

“*July 9th.*—Governor St. Clair arrived at the garrison. On landing, he was saluted with thirteen rounds from the field-piece. On entering the garrison the music played a salute, and the troops paraded and presented their arms. He was also saluted by a clap of thunder and a heavy shower of rain as he entered the fort; and thus we received our governor of the western frontiers.”

After a few days of repose, the governor, on the 18th of July, made his first public appearance before the citizens of the territory. At three o'clock in the afternoon he came over from Fort Harmar in the government barge, escorted by the officers of the garrison, and accompanied by Mr. Sargent, the secretary. He was received in the grove by Gen. Putnam, the judges



of the territory, and the principal inhabitants of the settlement, with congratulations and expressions of welcome. The secretary then proceeded to read the ordinance of July 13, 1787, for the government of the territory, and also the commissions of the governor, the judges, and himself. The governor then delivered an inaugural address, to which a response was made "in the name of all the people," and the ceremonies concluded with cheers and congratulations.

We may here digress, a few moments, to remark upon the unique form of civil government thus inaugurated, and formally established in the territory, and which was continued for a period of ten years. It was the first territorial government ever organized by Federal authority, and was, in some respects, crude and anomalous. The people had no part whatever in the government. The governor and judges derived their appointments first from congress, and, after the adoption of the Federal constitution, in 1789, from the president. There were no elective officers. The whole power, legislative, judicial, and executive was vested in the governor and judges, and in its exercise they were responsible only to the remote central government. A portion of the expenses of the government were borne by the United States, but the principal part were drawn from the people of the territory by heavy taxes.

This temporary system, however, crude as it now

seems, worked reasonably well in most respects, and though in some points it was unfriendly to the large liberty of the people, we must never forget the noble principles that were secured to the embryo states of the northwest by the famous ordinance of 1787. In language whose dignity befits the lofty theme, it provides "for extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty, which form the basis whereon these republics, their laws and constitutions, are erected; and for fixing and establishing those principles as the basis of all laws, constitutions, and governments, which forever hereafter shall be formed in said territory." It secured for all time civil and religious liberty, *habeas corpus*, and other fundamental rights. It enacts that, "religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools, and the means of education, shall forever be encouraged." Finally, it provided that, in the vast area over which it extended, slavery should never exist. Thus, perpetual freedom was secured to the states of the northwest. The borders of Ohio were consecrated while the wilderness was yet unbroken, and long before the state was formed; and the pioneers who landed at the mouth of the Muskingum trod upon a soil which could bear up none but free men.

By the ordinance of 1787, the governor and judges, or a majority of them, were empowered to adopt and

publish in the district, such laws of the old states, civil and criminal, as they saw fit, and were to report them to congress from time to time. But they did not confine themselves very strictly to the letter of the ordinance in this regard; for when they could not find laws of the old states suited to the wants and condition of the territory, they made enactments of their own—all of which were, a few years later, ratified and confirmed by the first territorial legislature.

The first law enacted for the territory was passed July 25th, 1788, and was thus entitled:

“A LAW for regulating and establishing the MILITIA in the Territory of the United States northwest of the river Ohio, published at the city of Marietta upon the twenty-fifth day of July, in the thirteenth year of the Independence of the United States, and of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, by his Excellency, ARTHUR ST. CLAIR, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-chief, and by the Honorable SAMUEL HOLDEN PARSONS and JAMES MITCHELL VARNUM, Esquires, Judges.” \*

Almost the first public act of the governor, was creating the county of Washington, the first county estab-

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\* Laws passed in the territory of the United States, northwest of the river Ohio, from the commencement of the government to the 31st of December, 1791. Published by authority. Philadelphia, 1792, p. 3.

lished in the great northwestern territory, and, as its boundaries were then fixed, comprising about one half of the present state of Ohio. The proclamation is as follows:

*"By his Excellency, Arthur St. Clair, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the territory of the United States, northwest of the river Ohio.*

**"A PROCLAMATION.**

*To all persons to whom these presents shall come, Greeting :*

WHEREAS, By the ordinance of Congress of the thirteenth of July, 1787, for the government of the territory of the United States northwest of the river Ohio, it is directed that for the due execution of process, civil and criminal, the governor shall make proper divisions of the said territory and proceed from time to time, as circumstances may require, to lay out the part of the same, where the Indian title has been extinguished, into counties and townships, subject to future alterations as therein specified. Now, know ye, that it appearing to me to be necessary, for the purposes above mentioned, that a county should immediately be laid out, I have ordained and ordered, and by these presents do ordain and order that all and singular the lands lying and being within the following boundaries, viz.: Beginning on the bank of the Ohio River, where the western boundary line of Pennsylvania crosses it, and running with that line to Lake Erie; thence along the southern shore of said lake to the mouth of the Cuyahoga river; thence up said river to the portage between that and the Tuscarawas branch of the Muskingum; thence down the branch to the forks, at

the crossing place above Fort Laurens; thence with a line to be drawn westerly to the portage of that branch of the Big Miami, on which the fort stood that was taken by the French in 1752, until it meets the road from the lower Shawanese town to the Sandusky; thence south to the Scioto river, thence with that river to the mouth, and thence up the Ohio river to the place of beginning; shall be a county, and the same is hereby erected into a county named and to be called hereafter the county of Washington; and the said county of Washington shall have and enjoy all and singular, the jurisdiction, rights, liberties, privileges and immunities whatever to a county belonging and appertaining, and which any other county, that may hereafter be erected and laid out, shall or ought to enjoy, conformably to the ordinance of Congress before mentioned. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the territory to be affixed, this twenty-sixth day of July, in the thirteenth year of the Independence of the United States, and in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight.

[Signed]            A. ST. CLAIR."

The "Law for establishing General Courts of Quarter Sessions of the Peace," published at Marietta August 23d, 1788,\* provided that that court should be held at Marietta four times in every year by justices of the peace appointed and commissioned by the governor. There were to be "a competent number" of these justices in each county, not less

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\* Laws of North West Territory, p. 7.

than three nor more than five of whom (to be specially named by commission), should hold the courts of quarter sessions. Any three of them, one being of the quorum specifically named, might hold special sessions when occasion required.

The county court of common pleas was to be held semi-annually by not less than three nor more than five judges to be appointed in each county and commissioned by the governor. A sheriff was to be appointed in each county by the governor.

The "General Court of the Territory of the United States northwest of the river Ohio,"\* composed of the judges appointed and commissioned by the Federal authority, was to hold four terms yearly in such counties as the judges should from time to time deem most conducive to the general good. Only one term yearly was to be held in any one county; and all processes, civil and criminal, were returnable to said court wheresoever it might be in the territory.

The first judges of the court of common pleas were Rufus Putnam, Benjamin Tupper and Archibald Crary. Return J. Meigs was appointed clerk of the court, and Col. Ebenezer Sproat sheriff, which office he held for fourteen years till the formation of the state government. The first judges of the courts of general quarter sessions were Rufus Putnam and Benjamin Tupper (justices of the quorum), and

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\* Laws of North West Territory, p. 11.

Isaac Pierce, Thomas Lord and Return J. Meigs, assistant justices.

General Putnam resigned his position as judge of the quorum in 1790, and Joseph Gilman, formerly of New Hampshire, was appointed in his place; and on the death of Judge Tupper, in June 1792, Robert Oliver was appointed judge of the quorum to fill the vacancy.

Meanwhile, notwithstanding the difficulties and dangers attending western emigration, and the perils that surrounded the little settlement, there began to be some arrivals from the east. During the month of August, 1788, eight families arrived from New England, which increased the population of the colony to one hundred and thirty-two men, with some women and children. At the beginning of the year 1789, there was not a single white family within the present bounds of Ohio save those in this settlement. The settlement at Cincinnati did not begin till the spring of 1789. Flint, himself a pioneer, in his "Indian Wars of the West," thus speaks of early emigration:

"The writer of this distinctly remembers the wagon that carried out a number of adventurers from the counties of Essex and Middlesex in Massachusetts, on the second emigration to the woods of the Ohio. He remembers the black canvas covering of the wagon; the white and large lettering in capitals '*To Marietta on the Ohio!*' He remembers the food which, even

then, the thought of such a distant expedition furnished to his imagination. Some twenty emigrants accompanied the wagon. The Rev. Dr. Manasseh Cutler, he thinks, had the direction of this band of emigrants.

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General Putnam seems to have been the only one who preceded him in claims to be the patriarch of the Marietta settlement. Dr. Cutler, at the time of his being engaged in the speculation of the Ohio Company's purchase, had a feud—it is not remembered whether literary, political, or religious—with the late learned and eccentric Dr. Bentley, of Salem, Massachusetts. Dr. Bentley was then chief contributor to a paper (*Salem Register*) which he afterward edited. The writer still remembers and can repeat doggerel verses by Dr. Bentley upon the departure of Dr. Cutler on his first trip to explore his purchase on the Ohio.

The first travelers to explore Ohio, availed themselves of the full extent of the traveler's privilege in regard to the wonders of this new land of promise, and the unparalleled fertility of the soil. These extravagant representations of the grandeur of the vegetation, and the fertility of the land, at first excited a great desire to emigrate to this new and wonderful region. But some returned with different accounts, in discouragement, and the hostility of the savages was painted in the most appalling colors. A reaction took place in the public mind. The wags of the day exercised their wit in circulating caricatured and exaggerated editions of the stories of the first adventurers, that there were springs of brandy, flax that bore little pieces of cloth on the stems, enormous pumpkins, and melons, and the like. Accounts the most horrible were added of hoop snakes of such deadly malignity that a sting which they bore in their tails, when it punctured the bark of a green tree, instantly caused its



leaves to become sear and the tree to die. Stories of Indian massacres and barbarities were related in all their horrors. The country was admitted to be fertile; but was pronounced excessively sickly, and poorly balancing by that advantage all those counterpoises of sickness, Indians, copperheaded and hoop snakes, bears, wolves, and panthers.

The tendency of the New England mind to enterprise and emigration thus early began to develop. For all these horrors, portrayed in all their darkness, and with all the dreadful imaginings connected with the thought of such a remote and boundless wilderness, did not hinder the departure of great numbers of the people, following in the footsteps of Gen. Putnam and Dr. Cutler. They were both men of established character, whose words and opinions wrought confidence. Dr. Cutler was a man of various and extensive learning. He was particularly devoted to the study of natural history, and was among the first who began scientifically to explore the botany of our country. He had great efficiency in founding the upper settlement (the Ohio Company's) in Ohio, and his descendants are among the most respectable inhabitants of the country at present."

During the year 1789 there were added to the colony one hundred and fifty-two men and fifty-seven families.

Thus the love of adventure and the migratory instincts of the New England people, year after year impelled little bands of pioneers to set their faces toward Ohio, and the settlements steadily, though slowly, increased. By long and toilsome journeys, carrying their effects in wagons, camping out at

night, and subsisting chiefly on the game which they killed by the way, these brave emigrants crossed the mountains to the head waters of the Ohio, whence they proceeded in large canoes or small flatboats down that river to their various destinations. Arrived there, they were beset with perils and difficulties of the most serious character. There were perils of famine which they more than once bitterly experienced, perils of flood, of Indians, and exposure of every sort. Yet the resolute New Englanders not only successfully combated all these enemies, but, in the midst of the struggle, found time to secure civil rights, establish law and order, introduce a pure religion, and provide for universal education.

“The most exalted sentiments arise on the consideration of the nature of those men who first broke in upon the forest-world of the West, and successfully planted civilization in the midst of the fiercest barbarism. Their like is never to be known again. In the progress and mutations of human affairs such a concourse of circumstances will never arise. There can never be another such revolution as that of 1776. If that was possible, will there be again such patriots, such men? Then came the weakness of their country and their own impoverishment; afterward the offer of the western lands in compensation for military service, but requiring the protection of military force. The never-lessening patience, perseverance, and piety of those stern characters have no parallel. With all these traits we

behold the hourly exercise of courage, the cool contemplation of danger, acuteness of design, and vigor of execution." \*

By the year 1790 a perceptible current of emigration had began to set from the older states to the western country, and Marietta and Cincinnati, the only two points yet settled, promised to become the nuclei of prosperous colonies. The inroad on the wilderness commenced, and, little by little, civilization was making good its advance. The sound of the pioneer's axe was heard, though in but few and widely-separated localities, and the smoke of his cabin chimney ascended from more than one peaceful settlement. Clearings were made, crops and families began to be raised, and the new-comers were taking root in the soil.

But from this peaceful dream there came a sudden and terrible awakening, in the Indian war which now burst upon the settlements with great fury. Indian aggressions had been growing in frequency during the past year or more. The Marietta settlers were peaceable men, who desired to treat the natives justly, and, if possible, to avoid warfare. But the frontier population of Virginia, the "Longknives," as they were called by the Indians, and those of Kentucky, were a different class of men. Born and bred hunters, and

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\* Whittlesey's *Fugitive Essays*, p. 24.

always ready for a deadly conflict, they regarded the Indians as vermin, or wild beasts, who were to be shot on sight. This treatment had engendered with the savages a mortal hatred of the whites, and the Ohio Company's settlers were, to some extent, included in their bitter hostility. They regarded the white men as their natural enemies, and, notwithstanding treaty stipulations, resented their settlement on the ancient hunting grounds as an intrusion, and cause of war. Thus, for a year or two past, the incursions and attacks of the Indians had become so frequent as to cause apprehension of a general war. They had announced their purpose of destroying every settlement, and putting out every white man's fire north of the Ohio river. To avert the impending danger, the government first tried negotiations; but, these proving futile, and the depredations growing more frequent and disastrous, General Harmar was directed to attack their towns.

In September, 1790, with thirteen hundred men, he marched from Cincinnati, through the wilderness, to the Indian villages on the Miami, which he burned. On his homeward march he was attacked by a superior force of savages, and, after a desperate battle, was totally defeated. Harmar was barely able to make good his retreat to Cincinnati. His expedition was a failure, and so far from restraining only served to embolden the Indians.

From this time, for four years, there was uninterrupted war with the Indians, and sad, indeed, were the calamities of the settlers. Wherever the settlements extended, the whole frontier was lighted by the flames of burning cabins and improvements. The first blow struck at the Ohio Company's purchase was on the 2d of January, 1791. On that day, it being a Sunday, the little settlement at Big Bottom, in Washington county, on the Muskingum river, was the scene of one of those bloody episodes, with which pioneer history abounds. We have not space to recount the event in its details; it was characterized by the usual horrible features of stealth and sudden surprise by the savages, of quick massacre and scalping of the victims, and of hasty retreat into the wilderness. In this attack twelve persons were killed, and five carried into captivity. [Hildreth's Pioneer History, pp. 431-439.]

The tidings of this bloody affair were borne to Marietta by special messenger, who reached there the morning after the massacre. The general court of quarter sessions was sitting, and had just convened, when the news arrived. The town was at once thrown into the utmost consternation. It was supposed that Marietta would be the next point attacked, and instant measures of safety were taken. The court hurriedly adjourned. Many of the jurors and witnesses in attendance, who were from Waterford, Belpre, and

other exposed settlements, hastened at full speed to their homes, each one expecting, or, at least, fearing, to find his dear ones slaughtered, and his cabin reduced to ashes.

General Putnam, who was always the master spirit in important crises and whose foresight had prepared for such an emergency as this, instantly put Marietta in a state of defense. All the families within reach were summoned thither, and securely placed in the block-houses of the garrison. The defenses were strengthened, guards doubled, and four sentinels placed at each of the bastions of the fort. The garrison was kept under the strictest discipline. The ammunition was inspected and made accessible at a moment's notice, and four-pounder cannon were placed at two of the corners of the fort. The present safety of the people being secured, Gen. Putnam immediately wrote urgent letters to President Washington and to Gen. Knox, the secretary of war, informing them that the storm of Indian war had burst upon the frontiers, and imploring them, by every consideration, to send troops for the protection of the settlers.

At Belpre and at Waterford, the panic caused by the massacre was even greater, as their means of defense were less. Quite a number of families had joined these settlements during the years 1789 and '90, and there were several women and little children. The news was brought to the latter settlement about ten

o'clock p. m. of January 2d. Men, women, and children were roused from their sleep by the fearful cry of "Indians," and woke to hear the story repeated with numberless exaggerations, to which, in their terror, they gave ready credence. It was believed, and not without reason, that the savages would fall upon them before daylight. All the inhabitants, amounting to about thirty souls, were hurriedly gathered into the largest and strongest cabin. Their most valuable portable property and necessary cooking utensils were brought in. A supply of water was hastily procured. The doors and windows were strongly barred. Interstices were made in the sides of the cabin, by punching out the chinking between the logs, for the men to fire through. Thus prepared, the rest of the night was passed in painful anxiety, and momentary expectation of attack. About daylight the Indians approached the cabin. Their forms were dimly seen by the sentinel, gliding among the trees, as if reconnoitering the position. The alarm was given, and the settlers awaited the onslaught with such firmness and composure as they could. The women and children were huddled into the safest corner of the cabin, and the men stood with finger on the trigger, prepared to fight it out.

But the attack did not come. Finding the inhabitants of the settlement awake and prepared for them, the Indians refrained from attacking the place. Having spent some time in reconnoitering, as day fairly

dawned, they made off into the woods, and the settlement escaped.

Everywhere, throughout the territory, the same consternation prevailed. The exposed out-posts were abandoned, and the people rushed for safety to the block-houses and garrisons. This state of things filled President Washington with the utmost anxiety for the vigorous prosecution of the Indian war. A second army, in all respects superior to Harmar's, was assembled at Cincinnati. Governor Arthur St. Clair was placed in command. His force consisted of three regiments of infantry, two companies of artillery, one of cavalry, and about six hundred militia. With this army he marched toward the Indian towns on the Maumee.

Disaster followed St. Clair from the beginning. On the march, a considerable portion of the militia deserted in a body. A whole regiment was detached—a portion to pursue the deserters, and a portion to save the expeditionary stores, which it was feared the deserters intended to plunder. With his force thus weakened by desertion and details, St. Clair advanced into the enemy's country. On the morning of the 4th of November, 1791, just before daylight, he was attacked with great fury by the combined army of the northwestern tribes. The battle was short and the result decisive: St. Clair was totally defeated, with a loss of more than six hundred men.



The government had hitherto prosecuted the war with little vigor and weak determination. In fact, there was opposition to the Indian war, and reluctance to enter on a difficult and dangerous campaign. The country had, as yet, hardly begun to recover from the prostration that followed the revolutionary struggle. Industry was paralyzed, the debt burdensome, and the currency disordered. But no alternative was now left. The existence of all the western settlements, and, perhaps, even our possession of the territories already acquired from the Indians, depended on a vigorous prosecution of the war. President Washington made new appeals to congress, and, in spite of violent opposition from certain quarters, the necessary supplies were voted, and the Indian war went on.

General Anthony Wayne was now appointed to the command. He was an officer of revolutionary experience, great energy, personal enthusiasm, and executive ability. He arrived at Cincinnati in the spring of 1793, and began the work of organizing a third army. It was not, however, till July, 1794, that, with a force of about thirty-five hundred men, he marched against the Indians. They had collected their whole force, amounting to about two thousand men, at the Maumee rapids. Wayne encountered the Indians on the 20th of August. The battle which ensued resulted in the utter defeat of the Indians, and was the beginning of their downfall in the northwestern territory.

Wayne followed up his victory, and gathered all its fruits. He burned their villages, destroyed their growing crops, and laid waste their whole country. Forts were erected in the heart of their territory, and they were made to feel, as they had never felt before, the energy and power of the government. Convinced, at last, of their inability to maintain the contest, or resolved, perhaps, to accept their inevitable doom, they sued for peace. A general council was convened at Greenville (now in Darke county), at which Gen. Wayne represented the United States, and the following tribes were represented by their chiefs, viz: the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanese, Ottawas, Chippewas, Putawatomes, Miamis, Eel-rivers, Kickapoos, Weeas, Piankashaws, and Kaskaskias. By the treaty here made, it was declared that "henceforth all hostilities shall cease; peace is hereby established and shall be perpetual; and a friendly intercourse shall take place between the said United States and Indian tribes." Prisoners were given up, boundary lines established, large cessions of land made, annual allowances of money to the Indians assured, certain hunting privileges granted, and provisions for trading agreed upon. \*

This treaty was signed August 3, 1795, and became

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\* U. S. Stat. at Large, vol. 7, p. 49.

the basis of a permanent peace in this part of the country. The tomahawk was buried, the Indians gave up their ancient hunting grounds and the graves of their fathers, and the white man's title to the lands of Ohio was never again seriously contested.

The following anecdotes of Gen. Wayne are furnished to the author by the venerable Dr. C. F. Perkins, of Erie, Pennsylvania, formerly a resident of Athens :

Some time after the conclusion of the treaty above named, Gen. Wayne was stationed at Erie, Pennsylvania. During his last illness his distress was greatly augmented and his nerves much excited by clouds of smoke from an ill-constructed chimney in his military cabin. Sending for the unfortunate mason who had built the chimney (a worthy man by the name of Hughes), Gen. Wayne berated him with considerable violence, and threatened to severely chastise him on the morrow. But the mason escaped punishment, for the brave general died before the dawn of the next day.

The body of Gen. Wayne was interred in the military ground near the block-house at Erie and on the bay of Presque Isle. After it had rested for at least a few years undisturbed, his son came from Wyoming to Erie to look after the body of his deceased parent. It was exhumed and found to be undecayed and almost entire. The son wished to convey the body to Wyoming for interment, but he had traveled on horseback and had no vehicle. Beside, no wheeled vehicle could be drawn through the unbroken forest without the greatest labor. The question was what could be done? It was solved by an army surgeon, who suggested that if the bones were divested of their covering, the young man might take them home with him in a portmanteau. Though uncongenial to the son's feelings, this proposition was acted upon. The osseous frame work was denuded by cutting away the solid flesh, and finally by boiling it in water and scraping thoroughly. Thus cleansed the bones were separated and carefully placed in the two ends of a large portmanteau and carried on horseback to Wyoming. The above was related to Dr. Perkins by an old citizen of Erie, who held a candle for and saw the entire operation.

## CHAPTER IV.

## From 1797 to 1805.

THE first permanent settlement within the present limits of Athens county was made in the early part of the year 1797 (eight years before the organization of the county), at the site of the present town of Athens. At this time the state of Ohio was practically an unknown region, and from the river to the lakes was almost an unbroken wilderness. Cincinnati had been laid out, on paper, a few years before, but was not settled till 1789, and did not begin to be a growing village till 1802. The sites of the cities of Columbus, Cleveland, etc., had not been thought of. The settlements on the Ohio Company's purchase and about Cincinnati, in the Miami valley, comprised nearly the whole population of the northwestern territory. The treaty of Greenville, and the cessation of the Indian war, removed the last obstacle to the peopling of this extensive region. The active spirit of emigration, restrained during the years of hostilities, was now set

free, and the living column began its westward movement with an impetus that was destined steadily to increase till the whole vast area should be possessed and populated. Every part of New England furnished its quota, and New York and Pennsylvania contributed to swell the tide of emigration as it rolled across their borders to the promised land of the West.

“Never,” says an early writer, “since the golden age of the poets, did ‘the syren song of peace and of farming’ reach so many ears, and gladden so many hearts, as after Wayne’s treaty at Greenville in 1795. ‘The Ohio,’ as it was called, seemed to be, literally, a land flowing with milk and honey. The farmer wrote home of a soil ‘richer to appearance than can possibly be made by art;’ of ‘plains and meadows without the labor of hands, sufficient to support millions of cattle summer and winter;’ of wheat lands that would vie with the island of Sicily; and of bogs from which might be gathered cranberries enough to make tarts for all New England; while the lawyer said that as he rode the circuit, his horse’s legs were dyed to the knee with the juice of the wild strawberry. At that time the diseases and the hardships of frontier life were not dwelt upon; the administration of Washington had healed the divisions among the states; the victory of Wayne had brought to terms the dreaded savages; and as the dweller on the barren shore of the Atlantic remembered these things and the wonderful facts, in addition, that the inland garden to which he was invited was crossed in every direction by streams even then counted on as affording means for free commercial intercourse, and that it possessed besides nearly seven hundred miles of river

and lake coast, the inducements for emigration became too strong to be resisted ; the wagon was tinkered up at once, the harness patched anew, and a few weeks found the fortune seeker looking down from the Chestnut Ridge or Laurel Hill upon the far-reaching forests of the West."

During the year 1796, nearly one thousand flatboats or "broadhorns," as they were then called, passed Marietta laden with emigrants on their way to the more attractive regions of southwestern Ohio. Reports as to the comparative sterility of the lands of the Ohio Company's purchase had been widely bruited, and, at that time, were generally credited. Yet, though thousands passed its barren hills scoffing as they guided their keels to the richer regions about the Miami, its progress in population, etc., was of the most encouraging kind. Those who stopped here were willing to work hard and content to earn independence and moderate fortunes by economy, thrift, and laborious effort.

In the early part of 1797, a considerable number of newly arrived emigrants were assembled in Marietta, eager to obtain lands on the best terms they could and to form settlements. The two townships of land appropriated by the Ohio Company for the benefit of a university had been selected in December, 1795. They were townships Nos. eight and nine in the fourteenth range, constituting at present Athens and Alex-

ander townships. The township lines were run in 1795, and the sectional surveys made in 1796, under the supervision of General Putnam, the Company's surveyor, who, from the first took an ardent interest in the selection of these lands and the founding of the university. His policy (in which he was seconded by the other agents) was to encourage the early settlement of the college lands, make them attractive and productive, and so begin the formation of a fund for the institution.

"These lands," says Ephraim Cutler, "with a large surrounding region, was one of the most favorite portions of the hunting ground which the Indians had surrendered in their several treaties; and the treaty of 1795 seemed to close the last fond hope of ever after enjoying them. Yet the hunters living about Sandusky, and on the different branches of the Muskingum not only continued to visit there, but until the winter of 1810-1811, they were in large parties during the hunting season, coursing through that extensive range of country comprising the lands watered by the Racoon, Monday, Sunday, and the heads of Federal creek. It was here that they formerly found the buffalo, the elk, and the bear. The buffalo and the elk were not exterminated until the year 1800. The bear continued in considerable abundance until the last great hunt of the Indians in the winter of 1810-11. That winter was a favorable season for them to effect the object they seemed to have in view, which was to destroy the game, the weather being cold with several falls of snow. The carcasses of many deer were found in the woods bordering the settlements in Washington and Athens

counties, which appeared to be wantonly destroyed by the savages. A young buffalo, believed to be the last seen in this part of the country, was captured a few miles west of Athens, on a branch of Raccoon, in the spring of 1799, brought to the settlement, and reared by a domestic cow."

In 1795 a man named Gillespie and two of the Flee-harts, noted frontiersmen, came up the Hockhocking to hunt. Landing at the mouth of Federal creek just at dark they found Indian signs so abundant and recent that they were afraid to proceed or remain. They built up a large fire, supplied it well with logs and hung up a blanket and one or two other articles to signify that they would soon be back, and leaving this to deceive the Indians, and throw them off their track, they hurriedly embarked again and returned down the river to Virginia whence they came. The next autumn (1796), the same party came up the river again to hunt. There was now not much fear of Indians, and they landed again at the mouth of Federal, where they camped and hunted for two days. The third day they agreed to explore the country somewhat; one of the Flee-harts kept the camp, the other went up Federal, and Gillespie up Hockhocking. He camped the first night at the mouth of Sunday creek. The next morning he crossed the river there, and came down on the other side to the ripple about where Bingham's mill was afterward built. Here he rested and removed his moccasins to recross the river. At the water's edge



he noticed the track of a large animal which seemed to have crossed recently. Tracing it over the shallow stream and up the opposite bank he found the peavines still wet from the animal's dripping legs, and from the broken underbrush and size of the path it had made concluded it was a buffalo. He followed on about a quarter of a mile, and coming upon a little rise just where the present Fair ground west of Athens is, he saw a very large male buffalo grazing there. Gillespie immediately fired and hit the animal, but not being fatally wounded it dashed off through the woods with Gillespie's dog in close pursuit, and himself at the best pace he could make. He followed the buffalo to the present site of Athens, and found him not far from where the court house now stands—a few rods south—(Gillespie frequently visited Athens in after years) tearing in great rage and pain at the roots of a fallen tree, and charging furiously at the dog, who was safely ensconced under the trunk. Gillespie lost no time in getting a second shot and this time killed the brute, whose tongue and choice parts he carried into camp with him the same night.\*

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\* This incident is related to the writer by Mr. John P. Thompson, who was born in Athens township in 1808, and who, while on a visit to Crawford county in 1832, where he hunted with the Wyandot Indians, made the acquaintance of Gillespie. Gillespie after the settlement of Athens became familiar with its localities, and told the story to Thompson as we have set it down.

Encouraged by Gen. Putnam, who wished to introduce permanent settlers as soon as possible, a number of the emigrants who had stopped at Marietta decided to locate on the college lands. Among these were Alvan Bingham, Silas Bingham, Isaac Barker, William Harper, John Wilkins, Robert Linzee, Edmund, William and Barak Dorr, John Chandler, and Jonathan Watkins. They made their way down the Ohio and up the Hockhocking in large canoes early in the year 1797. Having ascended as far as the attractive bluff where the town of Athens now stands, they landed and sought their various locations. A few of them fixed on the site of the present town, but most of them scattered up and down the adjacent bottoms. The surrounding country was then covered with dense forests, and the echo of their axes was the first sound of civilized industry heard in all this region. The bluff and bottoms were heavily timbered with hickory, walnut, ash, poplar, and other trees indicative of good soil; while the course of the tortuous Hockhocking was marked as far as the view extended by the gigantic sycamores that grew thick-set and lofty along its edge.

The first business of each settler was to make a little clearing and erect a log cabin, which was built with unhewed logs, poles, clapboards, puncheons, and, in those days, wooden pins instead of nails. In its erection, no tools were necessary except an axe, an auger, and, perhaps, a cross-cut saw. Straight trees of the

proper size were cut down, and either drawn by a team, or carried with the assistance of neighbors, to the building spot. The logs being cut of proper lengths were notched and laid up somewhat as children build cob-houses. If a large, or "double," cabin was desired, the logs were laid up to form two square pens, with an open space between, connected by a roof above and a floor below, so as to form a parallelogram, nearly three times as long as wide. In the open space, the family sometimes took their meals in pleasant weather, and it served the triple purpose of kitchen, lumber room, and dining room. The roof was covered with thin splits of oak, something like staves, about four feet long, from four to six inches wide, and about one-third of an inch thick. Instead of being nailed, these staves or clapboards were generally confined in their place by heavy timbers, laid at right angles across them, giving the roof a unique and rough appearance. A door-way and windows were made by chopping out the logs of proper length and hight before laying them up, so as to make suitable apertures. The doors were made of thin clapboards, split, like the roofing, from fresh-cut timber, and were generally hung, in an ingenious fashion, on large wooden hinges, and fastened with a substantial wooden latch. Frequently the latch was raised from the outside by a small leather string attached to it, and passing through a hole from within. When this string was drawn in, the latch

could not be raised from the outside, nor the door opened; hence the western expression to signify hospitality, that "the latch string is always out." Into the window apertures, small pieces of wood were fitted for sash, and upon them paper was pasted, and rendered translucent by oiling. Wooden shutters, made of staves, like the doors, were attached to the windows and closed at night. The floors (when any were used) were made of short, thick plank, split from poplar, walnut, or oak. In some cases, the more wealthy settlers had the logs hewed on the inside, and the puncheon floor hewed and planed. For a fire place and chimney, a space about six feet square was cut out of the end of the cabin, the lower part of the chimney built of rough stones, and the rest laid up with small logs and flat pieces, like laths, cemented with clay mortar, well intermixed with short cut straw or hay. The chimney had a huge aperture, and tapered upward like a pyramid. The hearth was made with clay mortar, or sometimes a large slab of sandstone. Finally, the spaces between the logs were filled with timber, split like fire wood, from some soft tree, and made impervious to wind and rain by daubing the cracks with mud. A few chairs and stools, a bedstead of poles interlaced with bark, and furnished with plenty of bear skins, a table split from a large log, and some cooking and eating utensils, constituted, perhaps,

the bulk of the furniture within; and the pioneer's home was completed.

Many of our readers, early settlers, are familiar with cabins of this sort, not a few of which are still to be found in the less thickly settled parts of the county, and very generally throughout the west. Though rude in structure and limited in accommodations, no one will read the description with contempt who has had any experience of new countries. Such cabins as those described have formed the germ of all the powerful and prosperous communities of the west. Not only have their rough walls sheltered rural plenty, manly independence, guileless honesty, contentment, and happiness, but they have been the birth-place of men and women who have left their impress on the age in which they lived. No more charming picture of honest industry and unalloyed happiness can be imagined than is sometimes afforded by the interior of these rude cabins. When the wintry wind blows and the shutters are barred, and the walls of hewed logs show the white lines of plaster which mark the interstices; when the fire blazes high in the wide, open chimney, illuminating the stores of dried meats or vegetables which hang from the rafters, and the rustic table, around which are gathered the happy and healthy family, smokes with woodland plenty—at such a time no one could doubt that even these primitive log cabins are compatible with real and profound enjoyment.

The pioneers soon opened up several clearings about Athens, and a little corn, for corn bread, was put in the first spring. The clearings, however, were irregular and scattered, and no effort was made, as yet, to lay out a town. Early in 1798 a number of emigrants arrived, among whom were Solomon Tuttle, Christopher Stevens, John and Moses Hewitt, Cornelius Moore, Joseph Snowden, John Simonton, Robert Ross, the Brooks, and the Hanings. Some of these had families. Some settled in Athens and some in Alexander township. Mrs. Margaret Snowden, wife of Joseph Snowden, was honored by having "Margaret's creek" named after her, she being the first white woman who reached this central point in the county.

For the enforcement of laws and preservation of order, Alvan Bingham had been commissioned a magistrate, and his brother, Silas, a deputy sheriff. One of their most difficult duties was to prevent illegal entries and occupations of land by new comers; but this, and their other duties, sometimes delicate and accompanied with danger, they discharged with firmness and general acceptance. Ephraim Cutler, who came in a little later than the Bingham, and settled in Ames township, was also a magistrate, and in a certain class of land cases, which required two magistrates and a jury, he and Judge Bingham held court together. In those early times, notwithstanding the primitive state of

society, the judges had proper ideas of the sanctity of law, and the dignity of a court. It is related that at one of these trials of forcible entry, the leaders of the disorderly class came forward and threatened violence; the magistrates ordered them to leave the room, which they did, but uttering threats to put a stop to such courts. The judges, determined to vindicate their judicial dignity, instantly issued warrants, and ordered the sheriff to arrest the parties immediately, and take them to Marietta. They were arrested accordingly, and it is not easy to conceive of men more frightened; the idea of being taken to Marietta, to be tried by a court that had established a reputation throughout the territory for firmness and strict justice, filled them with terror. Silas Bingham (who, to great shrewdness and dispatch in business, united an unconquerable humor) did nothing to allay their fears, but told them the better way would be to come into court, and, on their knees, ask forgiveness and promise amendment. The ringleader of the offending party replied that "it was too bad to be compelled to kneel down and ask forgiveness of two Buckeye justices;" but he concluded to submit, rather than be taken to Marietta, and the penitential ceremony was accordingly performed. [E. Cutler's Sketch.] During the first year of the county, the court was held in a private house, obtained for the occasion. In December, 1806, Silas Bingham was allowed twelve dollars for the use of a

room occupied by the courts during that year, and an allowance of six dollars was made by the county commissioners to "Edmund Dorr and Baruch Dorr, for guarding and victualling John Farmer one month." The two Bingham, Judge Alvan and his brother Silas, were natives of Litchfield county, Connecticut, and had both served in the revolutionary army. The former was a man of strong common sense, and his judicial mind and well-trained conscience, admirably qualified him for the position of judge, which he filled for many years. He is said to have been a person of quiet and dignified manners, stern and uncompromising in his sense of right. Silas was "full of anecdote and humor, social and kind in his feelings, a man of excellent sense, and a terror to evil-doers." The promptness with which these men acted in enforcing the laws had the effect to rid the settlement of nearly all disorderly persons. Alvan Bingham was the first treasurer of Athens county, and Silas was for several years a constable.

One of the greatest troubles that the pioneers had to contend with was the extreme scarcity of salt, and the high price of that essential article often caused severe privation. At the time of the first settlement of Athens and Ames, it was sold for six dollars a bushel, and had to be packed on horseback a great distance. As early as 1788, when the first colony arrived at Marietta, it had been rumored that salt springs



existed on a stream, since called Salt creek, which flows into the Muskingum river near Duncan's falls, Muskingum county, and even during the Indian war a party was sent up the river from Marietta to search for them. The exploration was made at great risk, but the springs were not found. White men, held as prisoners by the Indians, had seen them make salt at these springs, and had noted their locality. An accurate description of the country having been gained from these persons, another exploring party of hunters and experienced woodsmen was sent out, a year or two later, to find the springs. This time they were successful, and brought back with them a small supply of the precious article. In 1796, a joint stock company was formed of fifty shareholders, at one dollar and a half each, making a capital of seventy-five dollars, with the object of buying castings, erecting a furnace, and manufacturing salt. Twenty-four kettles were bought at Pittsburg, and transported by water to Duncan's falls, and thence, on pack-horses, to the salt springs, seven miles further. A well was dug, near the edge of the stream, about fifteen feet deep, to the bed rock, through the crevices of which the salt water oozed and rose, though not very abundantly. The trunk of a hollow sycamore tree was fixed in the well to exclude the fresh water. A furnace was built, of two ranges with twelve kettles each. The water was raised from the well by a sweep and pole. The

company was divided into ten sections of five men each, who worked, in turn, for two weeks at a time, and the works were thus kept in operation day and night, the men standing regular watches. They were thus able to make about one hundred pounds of salt in twenty-four hours, using about sixteen hundred gallons of water. This was the first attempt to manufacture salt in Ohio, and the product was a very inferior and costly article. For several years, all of the salt used by the pioneers of Athens county was brought from these works, and afterward from the Scioto salt licks,\* in Jackson county, on pack horses. It was both a great luxury and a prime necessity, and every grain of it was carefully husbanded.

The settlement was about two years old when an act was passed by the territorial assembly, relative to laying off the town of Athens. At this time only one town had been incorporated in the northwestern territory, viz: Marietta, the act incorporating which was passed less than three weeks previously. (Cincinnati was not incorporated till January 1, 1802. In the year 1800, the population of Cincinnati was 750; in 1805,

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\* These salt licks, in Jackson county, were considered of so much value, that, on the organization of the state, in 1802, a tract of land six miles square containing them was reserved from sale. The salines were worked for several years under state supervision, and were not sold until 1826, when the proceeds went into the state treasury.

it was 960; in 1810, it was 2,300; in 1813, it was 4,000; and in 1820, it was 10,500.)

The act relative to laying off the town of Athens is as follows:

“WHEREAS, In the county of Washington, within this territory, the townships Nos. eight and nine in the fourteenth range have been appropriated and set apart for the purpose of endowing an university, and, *whereas*, the application of the same to the purpose aforesaid has been entrusted to the legislature of this territory; therefore, to enable the said legislature the better to determine the situation whereon to establish the said university:

*Be it resolved by the Legislative Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly*, That Rufus Putnam, Benjamin Ives Gilman and Jonathan Stone, esquires, be requested to lay off, in the most suitable place within the townships aforesaid, a town plat which shall contain a square for the college, also lots suitable for house lots and gardens, for a president, professors, tutors, etc., bordering on or encircled by spacious commons, and such a number of town lots adjoining the said commons and out-lots as they shall think will be for the advantage of the university, who are to make a return of the said town plat and lots, describing their situation within the said townships, to the legislature at their next session, and shall receive such compensation for their services as the legislature shall and may direct and allow.

EDWARD TIFFIN,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

H. VANDERBURGH,

*President of the Council.”*

“Approved December 18th, 1799.

ARTHUR ST. CLAIR.”

Pursuant to this act the town plat was surveyed and laid off by Messrs. Putnam, Gilman, and Stone in the summer of 1800, and a copy thereof returned to the legislature, as required.

In December, 1800, the following act was passed by the territorial legislature :

*“An act confirming and establishing the town of Athens in the county of Washington.*

“WHEREAS, By a resolution of the legislature of this territory, of the 18th day of December, 1799, Rufus Putnam, Benjamin Ives Gilman and Jonathan Stone, esquires, were requested to lay off a town in the most convenient place within the townships numbered eight and nine, in the fourteenth range of townships as set apart by the agents and directors of the Ohio Company, for the uses and purposes of an university, which should be so laid off as to contain a square for colleges, and lots suitable for house-lots and gardens for a president, professors and tutors, with out-lots and commons. And, *whereas*, the said Putnam, Gilman and Stone in conformity to the said resolution, have laid off the said town within the ninth, tenth and fifteenth, sixteenth and twenty-second sections of the aforesaid ninth township, and have returned a plat of the same ; therefore, to establish and confirm the same :

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Legislative Council and House of Representatives in General Assembly*, And it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that the return and report of the said Putnam, Gilman and Stone be accepted and approved, and that the said town be confirmed and established by the name of the town of *Athens* ; *Provided*, that the trustees of the

university therein to be established shall have power to alter the plan of the said town, by extending the house-lots into the commons or out-lots, which adjoin the town, or by altering the streets, when, on actual survey, they may find it necessary or convenient. *Provided, also,* that such alterations be made and a plat of the town, out-lots and commons, with a designation of the uses of the commons, be recorded in the office of the recorder of the proper county prior to the offering to lease of any of the said lots.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the house-lots numbered fifty-five and fifty-six in the said town of Athens, or some other two lots therein equally well situated, to be designated and set apart by the trustees of the said university when appointed, shall be reserved for the accommodation of public buildings that may be necessary to be erected for the use of said town and the county in which it may be situated; which two lots, when agreed upon by said trustees, shall be particularly noted on the plat of said town and vest in the county to and for the uses designed thereby.

EDWARD TIFFIN,

*Speaker House of Representatives.*

ROBERT OLIVER,

*President of the Council."*

"Approved December 6th, 1800.

ARTHUR ST. CLAIR,

*Governor."*

At this time there were not more than five or six cabins occupied on the town plat. A Mr. Earhart lived on the brow of the hill near where Bing's carriage shop now is. Othniel Tuttle had a cabin on the S. W. corner

of the old graveyard. In 1800 Dr. Perkins bought his cabin and moved it down the road and added it to his own, near where Dr. E. G. Carpenter now lives. Solomon Tuttle lived in a cabin near where Love's grocery now is—opposite the Currier homestead. Christian Stevens had a cabin just back of the college green, and a man by the name of Brakefield lived 20 or 30 rods east of the S. E. corner of the green. Alvan Bingham lived half a mile N. E., where widow Bingham now lives.

During the next four or five years the settlement at Athens, though increasing but slowly, received the addition of numbers of valuable citizens, sketches of some of whom will be found elsewhere. About this time John Hewitt built the first grist mill in the county (in 1800), on Margaret's creek, about a mile above its mouth, where Timothy Goodrich afterward built a saw mill. Hewitt's mill was much resorted to by the settlers for grinding their breadstuffs. Previous to this the nearest mills were in Washington county, on the Ohio and Muskingum rivers, which could only be reached by tedious journeys. Soon after this a small mill was built by Charles Shepard, in Alexander township, on the place now owned by Samuel Armstrong. The horse mill below Athens, built by Capt. Silas Bingham, is believed to have been the next in order of time. During this period Henry Cassel, an ingenious man, manufactured small hand mills which ground

corn tolerably well. The stone from which they were made was found on the old Shepard place in Alexander township, now owned by John S. Miller. These hand mills of Cassel's were visited by the neighboring settlers almost daily, each taking his turn and grinding one quart, when he would yield the mill to some one else. Some families were provided with a private "hominy block," in which the corn was pounded and broken as with a pestle.

The first house was erected on the town plat in 1798, by Capt. John Chandler, a brother-in-law of Judge Alvan Bingham, on lot No. 1, near where Bing's carriage shop now stands. John Havner built a hewed log house on the opposite side of the street, very soon after. Dr. Perkins lived in a log cabin on State street, near where Dr. Carpenter now resides. Dr. Leonard Jewett, who came in 1804 or '5, occupied a hewed log house, previously erected by Capt. Silas Bingham, on the lot now occupied by Geo. W. Norris, on College street. Joel Abbott succeeded Captain Chandler, and erected one of the earliest brick houses, in 1803 or '4. William McNichol built, and occupied as a tavern, a hewed log house nearly opposite to Abbott's. About this time, William Dorr built, and occupied as a store, a double, hewed log house, on the lot where Judge Barker now resides. Afterward the house was occupied as a tavern. John Johnston built and occupied a log house, on the corner where Crip-

pen's grocery now is. Jared Jones built a log house on the lot now occupied by Mr. Topky. One of the first brick houses was built, and occupied as a store and dwelling, by Joseph B. Miles, near the corner known as "Brown's Corner."

Meanwhile the settlement had grown to a size that entitled it, in 1803, to the honor of mention by, probably, the first professional tourist who visited the northwest,\* and who said: "Athens, on the Great Hockhocking river, forty miles by water from the Ohio, lies in the election district of Middletown. This settlement commenced in the year 1797. The town is regularly laid out, on elevated ground, of easy ascent, round which the river forms a graceful bend. The situation is healthy, and the prospect delightful beyond description. The town is abundantly supplied with never-failing springs of excellent water, and the adjacent country is thought to be superior to any in the state for pleasantness and fertility."

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\* The Rev. Thaddeus M. Harris, a Massachusetts clergyman, who made a trip to the western country in 1803, in search of health and pleasure, an account of which he published in 1805. His book is, and has long been, a very rare one. Dr. Pierce said of it, nearly fifty years ago:

"The celebrated John Foster, of London, author of *Essays on Decision of Character*, etc., employed me to find or procure it for him. As it could not be found in any book store, I reluctantly parted with my own copy, to satisfy the curiosity of this learned man."



At this time, and for many years after the county was organized, various kinds of game were abundant in the forests, and deers, bears, wild turkeys, etc., were killed in great numbers. Wolves and panthers were a great annoyance, and, to the sheep growers, a great scourge. The first board of county commissioners, in June, 1805, ordered that a bounty of three dollars be paid for the scalp of every wolf or panther killed within the county, under six months old, and four dollars for every one over six months. This rate was continued for six years. June 11, 1811, the board resolved that from and after that date, the county would pay, for every wolf and panther scalp, one dollar, in addition to the state bounty, which was then two dollars for those under six months old, and four dollars if over six months. December 4, 1811, the commissioners ordered that, from and after that date, they would pay, in addition to the state bounty, two dollars per scalp. In September, 1813, the bounty was suspended till further ordered, but in June, 1814, it was renewed, and fixed at two dollars per scalp. June 5, 1817, the commissioners resolved, "that the bounty on wolf scalps be discontinued from and after the 5th day of June, 1818." The bounty on panther scalps was discontinued not long afterward.

The following persons, in addition to those already named, were residents of the town or township of Athens in 1805, viz: John Simonton, Andrew Hig-

gins, Cornelius Moore, Moses Bean, Henry Bartlett, James Jolly, Daniel Mulford, Simon Speed, Samuel Luckey, John, Samuel, William, and Robert Lowry, John Green, Garret Jones, Uriah Tippee, Joel Abbott, Jacob Wolf, Ignatius Thompson, William and Aaron Young, Samuel Pickett, Samuel Smith, Josiah Coe, Francis Whitmore, Isaac and Michael Barker, Jonathan and Timothy Wilkins, William and Charles Harper, and Jehiel Gregory—the last named represented the county in the legislature, in 1805 and '6, and built one of the earliest mills on the Hockhocking, east of Athens.

The names of some of the pioneer settlers, mentioned in these pages, are preserved in different parts of the county, as follows: Moore's run, in Athens township; Brown's branch, Ewing's branch, Wyatt's branch, Walker's branch, Linscott's branch, and Brawley's branch, in Ames; Ross run, in Alexander; Pilcher's branch, Hoskinson's branch, Buckley's branch, and Mansfield's branch, in Canaan; Guthrie's branch, Davis's branch, and Lottridge P. O., in Carthage; Bailey's branch and Jackson run, in Dover; Cassel's run and Shidler's branch, in Lee; Thompson's fork, Pratt's fork, Dailey run, Dinsmore branch, and Douglas branch, in Lodi; Stewart's run, Case run, Herrold run, Hatch branch, Rowell branch, and Green branch, in Rome; Frost branch, Washburn branch, Ross branch, and Devol's run, in Troy; Woodbury

run and McCune run, in Trimble; Hewitt's branch, in Waterloo; and Meeker's branch, in York township.

The settlement of the county was now fairly begun, and the population was receiving steady additions. The time was approaching when they would divide from Washington county, and begin a separate career. Before speaking, however, of the organization of Athens county, let us, in order to complete our view of this period, and gain a better understanding of some points in the early annals of the county, glance at

*Some Political Events from 1798 to 1805.*

The ordinance of 1787 provided that, as soon as there should be 5,000 free male inhabitants of full age, in the territory, and on proof thereof being made to the governor, the people should be authorized to elect representatives to a territorial legislature. The requisite population being reached in 1798, an election of representatives was ordered by proclamation of Governor St. Clair, to be held on the third Monday in December of that year. The lower house of the territorial assembly was to consist of one member for every five hundred voters, but the total not to exceed twenty-five members. The privilege of voting was confined to free-holders, in fee simple, of fifty acres of land within the district; and none but free-holders, in fee simple, of five hundred acres, were eligible as repre-

sentatives. The upper house, corresponding now to the senate, was to consist of a council of five members, each of whom should be a free-holder of not less than five hundred acres, to be chosen by the representatives from their own number, and to be confirmed and appointed by congress. At this election (the first ever held in the state), Col. Robert Oliver, Return J. Meigs, and Paul Fearing were chosen representatives from Washington county, receiving the hearty support of the voters of Athens and Ames, or, as it was then called, the Middletown district. The representatives elect assembled, according to the governor's proclamation, at Cincinnati, on the 4th of February, 1799, to transact certain business, preliminary to their regular meeting. After due deliberation, they nominated for the legislative council of five, Henry Vanderburg, of Vincennes, Robert Oliver, of Marietta, James Findlay and Jacob Burnet, of Cincinnati, and David Vance; all of whom were subsequently confirmed and appointed by Federal authority. Col. Oliver was chosen president of the council and held that position until the formation of the state government. The following is from a letter, written in 1837, by Jacob Burnet,\* of Cincinnati, himself a member of the territorial legislature.

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\* Jacob Burnet, one of the ablest among the early lawyers of the territory, was born at Newark, N. J., February 22, 1770, graduated at Princeton College, studied law under Judge Boudinot, was admitted to

We quote:

"On the 16th of September, 1799, both branches of the territorial legislature assembled at Cincinnati, and organized for business. The governor met the two houses in the representatives' chamber, and in a very elegant address recommended such measures as he thought were suited to the condition of the country, and would advance the safety and prosperity of the people. The body continued in session till the 19th of December, when, having finished their business, the governor prorogued them, at their request, till the first Monday in November.

This being the first session it was necessarily a very laborious one. The transition from a colonial to a semi-independent government, called for a general revision as well as a considerable enlargement of the statute book. Some of the adopted laws

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practice in 1796, and immediately emigrated to Cincinnati, where he passed the rest of his life. He says:

"At this time, the country to which I united myself, and with which it was my purpose to rise or fall, was, literally, a wilderness. The entire white population, between Pennsylvania and the Mississippi, from the Ohio to the lakes, was estimated at fifteen thousand. Cincinnati was a small village of log cabins, including perhaps a dozen of coarse frame houses, with stone chimneys, most of them unfinished. Not a brick had been seen in the place. It may aid in forming an idea of the appearance of the place at this time, to state that, at the northeast corner of Main and Fifth streets (now—1837—the centre of business and tasteful improvements), and contiguous to a rough, half finished frame house, in which our courts were held, there was a pond, filled with alder bushes, in which the frogs serenaded us regularly, from spring to autumn. The morass extended so far into Main street, that it was necessary to construct a causeway of logs, in order to pass it with convenience; and it remained in its natural state, filled with alder bushes and frogs, three or four years after my residence there began. The population of the town, including officers and followers of the army, was about five hundred."

were repealed, many others altered and amended, and a long list of new ones added to the code. New offices were to be created and filled, the duties attached to them prescribed, and a plan of ways and means devised to meet the increased expenditures, occasioned by the change which had just taken place. As the number of members in each branch was small, and a large portion of them either unprepared or indisposed to partake largely of the labors of the session, the pressure fell on the shoulders of a few. Although the branch to which I belonged was composed of sensible, strong-minded men, yet they were unaccustomed to the duties of their new station, and not conversant with the science of law. The consequence was that they relied chiefly and almost entirely on me to draft and prepare the bills and other documents, which originated in the council. One of the important duties which devolved on the legislature, was the election of a delegate to represent the territory in congress. As soon as the governor's proclamation made its appearance, the election of a person to fill that station excited general attention. Several persons were spoken of, and among them myself. Many of my friends solicited me to become a candidate, and ventured to give strong assurance of my election if I would consent to serve; but being at that time engaged in an extensive and lucrative practice, and not wealthy, I could not afford to quit my profession, or to abstract from it as much time and attention as the duties of the station would require. In addition to this, it appeared to me that I could be more useful to the people of the territory in their own legislature, than in congress. For these reasons I declined to be a candidate; and, before the meeting of the legislature, public opinion had settled down on William Henry Harrison and Arthur St. Clair, Jr., who were eventually the only candidates. On the 3d of October, 1799, the two

houses met in the representatives' chamber, according to a joint resolution, and proceeded to an election. The ballots being taken and counted, it appeared that William Henry Harrison had eleven votes, and St. Clair ten votes; the former was therefore declared to be duly elected. Having received his certificate of election, General Harrison resigned the office of secretary of the territory, proceeded forthwith to Philadelphia, and took his seat, congress being then in session. Though he represented the territory but one year, he obtained some important advantages for his constituents. He introduced a resolution to subdivide the surveys of the public lands and to offer them for sale in small tracts, which measure he succeeded in getting through both houses, in opposition to the interests of speculators who were, and who wished to be, the retailers of land to the poorer classes of the community. His proposition became a law, and was hailed as the most beneficent act that congress had ever done for the territory. It put it in the power of every industrious man, however poor, to become a freeholder, and to lay a foundation for the future support and comfort of his family.

"Congress at that session (1799-1800), divided the north-western territory, by establishing the new territory of Indiana, of which Mr. Harrison was appointed governor. By the division of the territory, Mr. Vanderburg (one of the legislative council) became a citizen of Indiana, and Solomon Sibley, of Detroit, was appointed to fill the vacancy in that body. The office of secretary, vacated by the election of Mr. Harrison as delegate in congress, was filled by the appointment of Charles Willing Byrd, who was afterward district judge of the United States for the district of Ohio.

"After the close of the first session of the territorial legislature, a law was passed by congress (May 7, 1800), removing

the seat of government from Cincinnati to Chillicothe. On the 3d of November, 1800, the general assembly convened at that place. The governor met and addressed them, recommending, specifically, the measures to which he desired their attention. On the 6th of November the two houses met for the purpose of filling the vacancy made by the resignation of Gen. Harrison in congress and also to elect a delegate for the next succeeding term. William McMillan, of Cincinnati, was elected to fill the vacancy and Paul Fearing, of Marietta, for the term to begin on the 4th of March then next. On the 2d of December (as the governor's term of office expired on that day) the assembly adjourned *sine die*."

Governor St. Clair was soon reappointed by President Adams, and a new assembly was elected by the people, which convened at Chillicothe on the 24th of November, 1801. It remained in session till the 23d of January, 1802, when it was adjourned by the governor to be reopened at Cincinnati, on the fourth Monday of November, 1802. This removal of the seat of government from Chillicothe to Cincinnati was (says Burnet), "in consequence of the violent and disgraceful proceedings of a mob, which assembled on two successive evenings for the purpose of insulting the governor and several of the members of the legislature, without any steps being taken by the town authorities to repress it, or to punish the leaders." But the territorial assembly never convened again. Before the day of its adjournment arrived, delegates had been elected to a constitu-



tional convention, and preparations were being made for admission as a state into the Federal Union. This step was the theme of a great deal of discussion at that day, and was the most absorbing topic of the times.

The territorial government was of brief duration, lasting less than three years, when the contest between those who desired and those who opposed the formation of a state government, resulted in favor of the former; not, however, without a sharp popular struggle and considerable excitement. Indeed, the contest was for some time an active and bitter one. The opponents of a state government (*i. e.* of forming one *at this time*), argued that such a measure would be especially injurious to the inhabitants of the Ohio Company's purchase; that they had been struggling with the hardships of opening the wilderness since the year 1788, and for a large part of the time pressed by the merciless savage to the extremes of want, danger, and even death; that the population was sparse and generally poor; that the expenses of a state government would be heavy in proportion to the inhabitants, while the advantages to them in their present situation would be few, perhaps none, over a territorial government; and, finally, that the taxes to support a state government would fall on the actual settlers and land-holders, as the Ohio Company's lands would all be brought on the tax list, while congress lands, daily becoming more valuable by the improvements of

the settlers, were to be free from taxation. The people of Washington county were so much opposed to the formation of a state government at that time, that they determined to hold a convention and give formal expression to their views. Delegates were accordingly chosen by the different settlements in the purchase, as follows: for Marietta, Paul Fearing and Elijah Backus; for Belpre, Isaac Pierce and Silas Bent; for Waterford, Robert Oliver and Gilbert Devol; for Adams, Joseph Barker; for Newport, Philip Witten and Samuel Williamson; for Middletown (or Athens), Alvan Bingham; and for Gallipolis, Robert Safford. Gilbert Devol was chosen chairman of the convention, and Joseph Barker secretary. The foregoing arguments were presented, in a paper prepared by Joseph Barker, and after mature deliberation the convention adopted the following:

*“Resolved, That, in our opinion, it would be highly impolitic and very injurious to the inhabitants of this territory, to enter into a state government, at this time. Therefore, we, in behalf of our constituents, do request that you will use your best endeavors to prevent, and steadily oppose the adoption of any measures that may be taken for the purpose.”*

Which, being properly attested, was sent to their representatives in the territorial assembly.

In the assembly, also, the measure met with determined opposition. But those who expected office, or

preferment of some sort, under the new government, outnumbered the more sober and cautious representatives. The measure was carried, and it was decided to form a state government. So eager were the ambitious friends of the project for a change, that they relinquished the right of taxing the lands owned by congress, until five years after they had been sold and in the possession of the purchaser; whereas, in equity, they should have been liable to taxation as soon as they were in his possession. The apprehensions of the injurious results to the inhabitants of the Ohio Company's purchase, were soon realized, as the taxes for the support of the new government fell very heavily on them. This inequality remained until the year 1825, when the *ad valorem* system was introduced, and removed the long continued injustice. [Hildreth.]

The next step in the transition from territorial to state government, was the passage of an act by congress, on the 30th of April, 1802, "to enable the people of the eastern division of the territory northwest of the river Ohio, to form a constitution and state government." This act provided for the election of delegates to frame a constitution, and fixed the qualifications of electors. It also fixed the present boundaries of Ohio, reserving the territory west and north of it for other states. Delegates to the constitutional convention were elected in the summer of

1802. The inhabitants of Athens (a part of Washington county) were represented by Ephraim Cutler, Rufus Putnam, John McIntire, and Benjamin Ives Gilman. The convention assembled at Chillicothe on the 1st day of November, 1802, and remained in session about three weeks. The constitution being formed, was ratified and signed by the members on the 29th of November. It was never submitted to the people, but became the organic law of the state by the act of the convention alone.

Certain important changes, concerning the school lands, were made by the convention, in the proposition of congress, under which the state was to come into the Union. Congress assented to the proposed modifications by act of March 3, 1803, thus completing the compact and accepting Ohio as a state and a member of the Federal Union.

Governor St. Clair and most of the leading men during the period of the territorial government, were federalists; but by the time the territorial legislature was chosen (in 1799), democratic or Jeffersonian ideas were becoming popular, and the assembly, which met at Cincinnati in September, 1799, was possessed of some of the democratic temper then prevalent. This, together with the rather arbitrary use of the veto power by Governor St. Clair, caused some clashing between them. The result was that an impetus was given to the growth of democratic ideas in the territory, the con-

stitutional convention, which met in 1802, was strongly Jeffersonian, and the constitution which they formed was a thoroughly democratic one. Its excellencies and defects, for it had both, were those of a truly popular form of government.

And now began the contest between "federalism" and "democracy"—the one school represented by Hamilton and his coadjutors, who believed in a powerful and splendid central government; and the other by Jefferson and his followers who advocated the largest liberty to the individual, and regarded with the utmost jealousy what they stigmatized as the centralization of power. "There were giants in those days," and their political and intellectual contests were admired and repeated in the remotest parts of the republic. By these opposing ideas, the actors in the little political arena of Athens county, like those of many other greater or smaller arenas throughout the country, were for many years to come excited and educated.

The time had now arrived when for various reasons, chiefly political perhaps, it was deemed advisable to form a new county on the west of Washington, and to be carved out of it.

## CHAPTER V.

### Athens County.

The county of Athens was established by the following act:

*"An act establishing the County of Athens.*

SECTION I. *Be it enacted, etc.,* That so much of the county of Washington as is contained in the following boundaries, be and the same is hereby erected into a separate county, which shall be known by the name of Athens, viz : beginning at the southwest corner of township number ten, range seventeen; thence easterly with the line between Gallia and Washington counties, to the Ohio river; thence up said river to the mouth of Big Hockhocking river; thence up the said Hockhocking river to the east line of township number six, of the twelfth range; thence north on said line to the northeast corner of the eighth township, in the said twelfth range; thence west to the east line of Fairfield county; thence south on said county line and the line of Ross county, to the place of beginning.

SEC. II. That from and after the first day of March next, the said county of Athens shall be vested with all the powers, privileges, and immunities of a separate and distinct county: *provided always,* that all actions and suits which may be pending

on the said first day of March next, shall be prosecuted and carried into final judgment and execution, and all taxes, fees, fines, and forfeitures, which shall be then due, shall be collected in the same manner as if this act had never been passed.

SEC. III. That the seat of justice for said county, is hereby established in the town of Athens, any law to the contrary notwithstanding. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after the first day of March next."

[Passed February 20th, 1805.]

The county as thus established in 1805, contained one thousand and fifty-three square miles, or about thirty regular surveyed townships, and included five townships now belonging to Meigs county, viz: Columbia, Scipio, Bedford, Orange, and Olive townships; two now belonging to Morgan county, viz: Homer and Marion; three now belonging to Hocking county, viz: Ward, Green, and Starr; and seven now belonging to Vinton, viz: Brown, Swan, Elk, Madison, Knox, Clinton, and Vinton townships; and a strip of land about ten miles long and one mile wide now belonging to Washington county. By an act passed January 30th, 1807, entitled "an act to alter the boundary line between the counties of Athens and Gallia," a strip about ten miles long and one mile wide, was added to the southeast corner of Athens county as it then existed. By an act passed February 18th, 1807, entitled "an act altering the line between the counties of Washington and Athens," the boundary

of Athens was changed so as to take in the portion of Troy township lying east of the Hockhocking river; and the same act detached a strip one mile wide and fifteen miles long, lying along the eastern border of Rome, Bern, and Marion townships, from Athens county, and added it to Washington. By an act passed February 10th, 1814, sections thirty-one and thirty-two in township number six, range eleven (Rome) were detached from Washington and added to Athens, and sections eleven and twelve in township number eight, range twelve (now Marion township, Morgan county), were detached from Athens and added to Washington. The creation of the county of Jackson by act of January 12, 1816, took township number ten, range seventeen (now Clinton township, Vinton county), from Athens. The creation of the county of Hocking by act of January 3, 1818, took parts of three townships (Green and Starr, of Hocking, and Brown, of Vinton county), from Athens; and by an act of March 12th, 1845, entitled "an act to attach part of the county of Athens to the county of Hocking," the residue of those townships was stricken off. The creation of the county of Meigs, January 21, 1819, took five townships from Athens and reduced our southern boundary to its present limits. By an act passed March 11, 1845, the townships of Homer and Marion were detached from Athens and added to Morgan county. Finally, the erection of the county of Vinton by act passed March



23, 1850, took the remainder of our outlying possessions in that direction, and the same act detached Ward township from Athens and gave it to Hocking, thus reducing our boundaries all around to their present limits. The present boundaries of the county include about four hundred and eighty-four square miles.

An act of the legislature, passed February 13th, 1804, entitled "an act establishing boards of commissioners," provided that the election for commissioners should be held on the first Monday of the next April. The first election in Athens county resulted in the choice of Silas Dean, William Howlett and John Corey, commissioners. We quote from the record of the first board of commissioners:

*" County of Athens, State of Ohio,  
April 16th, 1805.*

Agreeably to an act entitled 'an act establishing boards of commissioners,' passed February the 13th, 1804,

We, Silas Dean, Wm. Howlett and John Corey, being elected commissioners for the county of Athens on the 13th day of April, 1805, Silas Dean and John Corey, agreeably to appointment, met this day in order to proceed to business, and have made choice of John Corey for clerk, and then proceeded to divide the county into the following townships :

The township of *Ames* begins at the N. E. corner of the county, thence running W. to the N. W. corner of said county ; thence S. to the S. W. corner of township No. 12 in the 16th range ; thence E. to the S. E. corner of township No. 7 in the 12th range ; thence N. to the place of beginning.

The township of *Athens* begins at the N. W. corner of township No. 12 in the 17th range, thence S. to the S. W. corner

of township No. 12 ; thence E. to the S. E. corner of township No. 5 in the 13th range ; thence N. to the N. E. corner of the aforesaid township No. 5 ; thence West to the place of beginning.

The township of *Alexander* begins at the N. W. corner of township No. 11 in the 17th range, thence South to the S. W. corner of township No. 10 in the aforesaid 17th range ; thence E. to the S. E. corner of township No. 3 in the 13th range ; thence N. to the N. E. corner of township No. 4 in the 13th range ; thence W. to the place of beginning.

The township of *Troy* begins at the S. W. corner of township No. 4 in the 12th range, thence East on the south line of the county until it intersects with Shade river ; thence down Shade river to its junction with the Ohio ; thence up the Ohio to the mouth of the Great Hockhocking ; thence up the Hockhocking to where the eastern line of the 12th range crosses said river ; thence N. to the N. E. corner of township No. 6 in the 12th range ; thence W. to the N. W. corner of the aforesaid 6th township ; thence S. to the place of beginning.

By a majority of the board of commissioners Alvan Bingham was appointed treasurer for the county of Athens. April 17th, said Bingham's bonds executed and accepted."

[Here follow proposals and specifications for the building of a log jail and jailor's house, the jail to be 24 feet long in the clear and 13 feet wide, with minute descriptions of every part ; but our space does not allow their insertion.]

"The board of commissioners have appointed John Armstrong's house as the first place of meeting for the electors of Alexander township ; John Havner's house as the first place of meeting for the electors of Athens township ; Ebenezer Buckingham's house as the first place of meeting for the electors of

Troy township, and Sylvanus Ames' house as the first place of meeting for the electors of Ames."

[This session of the board lasted from the 16th to the 19th of April. William Howlett joined the other commissioners on the 17th. Their compensation was \$1.50 per day, and the expense of this, the first meeting of the board, was \$19.25. They adjourned till the second Monday of June, 1805.]

"The board met agreeably to adjournment on the second Monday of June and proceeded to levy the county tax, and made out one duplicate for the township of Ames, one for Athens and Alexander, and one for Troy.

In conformity to the 11th section of an act for granting tavern licenses, ferriages, &c., passed at Chillicothe the 1st day of February, 1805,

*Resolved by the Board of Commissioners,* That the price of licenses for ferries crossing the Ohio within this county shall be two dollars. The rates for crossing said river shall be as the law prescribes in the aforesaid 11th section.

*Resolved,* That the license for ferries crossing the Great Hocking river shall be two dollars. The rate of ferriage of the same shall be as follows, viz: For each foot passenger, three cents; for man and horse, ten cents; for loaded wagon and team, fifty cents; for every other four-wheeled carriage, or empty wagon and team, thirty-seven and one-half cents; for every loaded cart and team, thirty-seven and a half cents; for every loaded sled, or sleigh, or empty cart and team, twenty-five cents; for every empty sled, or sleigh and team, twelve and a half cents; for every horse, mare, mule, or ass, and every head of neat cattle, six cents; for sheep and hogs, three cents.

*Resolved,* That all other ferries within the county shall be one

dollar for license, and the rates of ferriage shall be as above prescribed on the Hockhocking.

*Resolved*, That the license for taverns in the town of Athens shall be eight dollars; for the township of Ames, four dollars; for the township of Troy, five dollars; and for the township of Alexander, four dollars and a half. For the township of Athens, the price of a tavern license shall be six dollars.

The tax assessed on the township of Ames is thirty-nine dollars, as appears by the duplicate; the tax assessed on the townships of Athens and Alexander is ninety-six dollars and forty cents, as appears by the duplicate; the tax assessed on the township of Troy is twenty-two dollars and twenty cents, as appears by the duplicate. The total amount of all the taxes assessed in the county of Athens is one hundred and fifty-seven dollars and sixty cents.

The petition of David Watkins and others for a road, after being read, was rejected, it not being according to law. The petition of William Young and others for a road, after being read, was rejected, it not being according to law. The petition of H. Castle and others praying for a road, after being read, was rejected, not being according to law. The petition of Daniel Weethee and others for the division of the township of Ames was not acceded to. The petition of Elijah Hatch and others praying for the erection of a new township in this county was not acceded to.

County of Athens to Josiah True. Dr.

For services by him done in the township of Ames, listing taxable property in the year 1805,	-	-	-	-	\$5 30
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County of Athens to Stephen Buckingham. Dr.

For services done in listing taxable property in the township of Troy, in the year 1805,	-	-	-	-	5 00
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County of Athens to George Shidler. Dr.

For services done in listing taxable property in the townships of Athens and Alexander, in the year 1805,	-	-	-	8 00
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The total amount for listing and returning is \$18 30.

*Resolved*, by the Board of Commissioners, that John Corey shall receive twelve dollars for his services as clerk for this board during the time the said board elected him for.

WHEREAS, It appears by a more mature deliberation to the board, that the resolution passed by them the 19th of April last, fixing the place for the first meeting of the electors of the township of Ames, is a grievance, and that the same should be changed, and for that purpose it is *Resolved*, by the board, that the place for the first meeting of the electors of the aforesaid township of Ames, is the dwelling house of Nathan Woodbury.

The County of Athens. Dr.  
To William Howlett, Silas Dean, and John Corey for four days' services, each. as commissioner, seven dollars each, - \$28 00

Adjourned till the second Tuesday of July.

July 9th, 1805.—William Howlett and John Corey met, pursuant to adjournment, and proceeded, after a more mature deliberation, to strike out the price of license for the town plat of Athens.

WHEREAS, It appears on more mature deliberation by the Board of Commissioners that the petition of David Watkins and others praying for a road to be laid out from Asahel Cooley's to Henry Cassel's mill was done according to law, the said board have appointed George Shidler, Henry Shidler, and Charles Weeks to view said road.

The petition of William Young and others praying for a road to be laid out from Athens toward Lancaster, that was rejected, is now considered according to law, and the Board of Commissioners have appointed Arthur Coates, George Shidler, and Robert Ross to view said road.

It appearing to the board on more mature deliberation that the petition of Henry Cassell and others praying for a road to be laid out from Athens toward Salt Lick, which was rejected, was done agreeably to law, they now appoint Robert Linzee, Samuel Moore, and Joel Abbott to view out said road.

*Resolved*, by the Board of Commissioners, that Daniel Stewart be appointed collector for the township of Troy, in the room of Stephen Buckingham, delinquent.

This day, George Shidler came forward, and gave his bond as collector for the townships of Athens and Alexander.

Adjourned.

*November 4th, 1805.*—[An election having occurred in October.] Agreeably to an act entitled 'an act establishing Boards of Commissioners,' passed February 13th, 1804, We, William Howlett, William Barrows, and Samuel Moore, being elected commissioners for the county of Athens, have met this day in order to do business.

A petition, bearing date May 30th, 1805, having been presented to the board by David Watkins and others, of the township of Alexander, praying for a road beginning at the range line between the 12th and 13th ranges, thence onward to the Salt Lick, and George Shidler, Charles Weeks, and Henry Shidler having been appointed to view said road, now report the same useless.

The County of Athens to Ebenezer Barrows. Dr.	
For carrying the returns of the election for the town of Athens to Marietta, - - - - -	\$3 00

County of Athens to Henry Shidler. Dr.	
For carrying returns of election for the township of Alexander to Marietta, - - - - -	3 50

County of Athens to Henry Bartlett. Dr.	
For services rendered in attempting to get a list of nonresidents' lands within said county, - - - - -	5 00

We, the Commissioners, at our first meeting, cast lots, as the law directs, and drew as follows, viz: Samuel Moore to stand three years, William Howlett to stand two years, and William Barrows to stand one year.

County of Athens to Alexander Stedman. Dr.	
For carrying the returns of election for the township of Troy, for the year 1805, to Marietta, - - - - -	\$2 00

County of Athens to Abel Miller. Dr.			
To two days' attendance as judge of the court of common pleas at November term, 1805,	-	-	\$6 00
To Alexander Stedman. Dr.			
To two days' attendance as judge, etc. (as above),	-	-	6 00
To Silvanus Ames. Dr.			
To one day's attendance, and going and returning,	-	-	6 00

Adjourned.

*December 21, 1805.*—Josiah True came forward and gave bonds as collector of the township of Ames.

County of Athens. Dr.			
To postage on letter taken out of the postoffice and paid 12½ cents by A. Stedman and 12½ cents by Samuel Moore	-	-	25 cts.

*May 19th, 1806.*—We agreed with Joel Abbott for vacant house for a temporary prison to receive the body of John Fleehart for the present.

*June 2d, 1806.*—William Barrows and Samuel Moore met in order to do business at the house of Silas Bingham. Silas Dean and Samuel Brown presented a petition for a road beginning at the Twenty-five mile tree on the state road, and ending at or near the Thirty-four mile tree on the Lancaster road.

Robert Linzee presented a petition for the road to be altered from Samuel Moore's to Stroud's run. Alvan Bingham, Arthur Coats and Jehiel Gregory are appointed to view said road the third Saturday in July, and Abel Miller is appointed surveyor.

County of Athens to Joseph Guthrie, Jun. Dr.			
To services done in listing and making out duplicates for the township of Troy, eight days,	-	-	\$8 00
To Martin Boyles. Dr.			
To services in listing, appraising, and making out duplicates for the township of Ames—seven days and a half,	-	-	7 50
To Robert Fulton. Dr.			
To services as lister and making out returns—six days,	-	-	6 00
To Thomas Armstrong. Dr.			
To services as lister and making out returns,	-	-	6 00

*Resolved*, by the Board of Commissioners, that the bounty on wolves' and panthers' scalps for this year shall be as follows, viz: For any wolf or panther under six months old, three dollars, and for all above that age, four dollars per scalp.

*June 5th.*—We have appointed William Harper treasurer for this year, and this day he came forward and gave bonds as the law directs.

We have received Robert Linzee's bond as sheriff as the law directs.

Athens township licenses for taverns for this year, *i. e.*, from the State road toward the Salt works are fixed at six dollars and fifty cents, and license on the State road, in said township, at four dollars each. Tavern licenses for the township of Ames are five dollars and fifty cents each. Tavern licenses for Troy and Alexander are five dollars each.

Ferry licenses on the State road, for this year, are two dollars, and other ferries on the Hockhocking, one dollar and fifty cents. Rates of ferriage across said river for man and horse, twelve and a half cents; and all the other rates the same as last year.

Athens County to Henry Bartlett. Dr.

For services done the county,	- - - - -	\$27 75
For making out duplicates for state and county taxes,	- - - - -	6 00

Athens County to Jehiel Gregory. Dr.

To services done said county as an associate judge by notifying an election for sheriff, coroner, and county commissioners, and receiving and making returns thereof; also for time spent with Judge Ames appointing and making bonds with Henry Bartlett as clerk <i>pro tem.</i> for the court of common pleas,	- - - - -	4 50
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Athens County to Abel Miller. Dr.

To laying out jail bounds,	- - - - -	75
To chainmen,	- - - - -	75

Athens County to Silas Bingham. Dr.

For a room for one session of commissioners, June, 1806,	- - - - -	4 00
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Athens County to Samuel Beaumont. Dr.

To one wolf scalp,	- - - - -	4 00
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To Joseph Guthrie. Dr.	
To one wolf scalp, - - - - -	\$4 00
To Robert Linzee. Dr.	
To viewing a road from Athens toward the Salt Lick, twelve days and a half, - - - - -	12 50
To pack horse twelve and a half days, for the use of the company, - - - - -	3 12½
Athens County to Alvan Ogden. Dr.	
To viewing a road from near Asahel Cooley's, in Troy township, through Alexander, to intersect with the Salt Lick road at or near Wheelabout—nine days, - - -	9 00
To Charles Weeks. Dr.	
To viewing above road—nine days, - - - - -	9 00
To Daniel Mulford. Dr.	
To boxes for grand and petit juries, - - - - -	1 50
To William Howlett. Dr.	
To panther scalp, over six months, - - - - -	4 00
To William Barrows. Dr.	
To three days' services in reforming (planning?) a jail and forming a courthouse, and advertising the same, \$5 25.	
[Ordered by the associate judges that this amount be docted down and carried out, - - - - -	
	3 50]

September 1, 1806. A petition being presented by William Green and others, praying for a road from John Brown's to Reuben Davis's, and from thence to Moses Hewitt's, the board appoint Ephraim Cutler, Joshua Wyatt, and Jason Rice viewers for said road, to meet the 9th day of September, at the house of John Brown; and they appoint Thomas M. Hamilton surveyor of said road.

A petition being presented by Eliphaz Perkins and others, praying for a road from the town of Athens to the house of Frederic Foughty, in Ames township, John Corey, Abel Mann, and Nicholas Phillips are appointed viewers, and Abel Miller surveyor of said road.

Athens County to Ebenezer Carrier. Dr.	
To one quire of paper, - - - - -	45 cts.

Athens County to Azel Johnson. Dr.	
To three wolf scalps, over 6 months old, - - -	\$12 00
Athens County to Henry Bartlett. Dr.	
To posting the commissioners' books, - - -	2 00
Athens County to Abel Miller. Dr.	
To surveying a road from Athens to the county line, towards Scioto Salt Lick, and his chainmen and markers, -	21 00
To surveying a road from No. 5, in Troy, through the township of Alexander to intersect the Salt Lick road, on the waters of Wheelabout, and his chainmen and markers, -	22 50
Athens County to Joseph Guthrie. Dr.	
To one wolf scalp, - - - - -	4 00
To Stephen Buckingham. Dr.	
To one day's service in returning poll-book of election held in Troy township, - - - - -	1 00

The acc'ts in this book audited to this date, Nov. 13, 1806.

SILVANUS AMES,  
ALEXANDER STEDMAN,  
ABEL MILLER,  
*Associate Judges.*

County of Athens to Silvanus Ames. Dr.	
To five days' service as judge at November term, - - -	\$15 00
To Alexander Stedman. Dr.	
To five days' service as judge, - - - - -	15 00
To Abel Miller. Dr.	
To four days' service as judge, - - - - -	12 00
To Silas Bingham. Dr.	
For a court house one year, - - - - -	12 00

*December 1, 1806.* At a meeting of the County Commissioners on Monday, the 1st day of December, 1806, present Alvan Bingham and Samuel Moore, commissioners, the board appointed Henry Bartlett clerk for the term of one year, and agreed to pay him thirty dollars for his services, payable quarterly.

Personally appeared before me Abel Miller, one of the asso-

ciate judges of the court of common pleas for the county of Athens, the above-named Henry Bartlett, who was sworn according to law, for the faithful discharge of his duties as clerk to the commissioners.

(Signed)

ABEL MILLER, *Asso. Judge.*

*December 2.* Present as yesterday, and William Howlett, who also appeared and took his seat as commissioner.

Ordered by the commissioners that their clerk sign all orders issued by them, as clerk of the commissioners.

Notice issued to the trustees of Athens township to open a road, leading from Samuel Moore's to Stroud's run, agreeably to law.

Also, to open a road leading from the town of Athens to the county line toward the Scioto Salt Lick, *i. e.*, so much of said road as lies in the township of Athens, as surveyed by Abel Miller.

Notice issued to the trustees of the township of Alexander to open a road, leading from Athens toward the Scioto Salt Lick, *i. e.*, so much of said road as lies in the township of Alexander.

Also, to open a road leading from the line of the township of Alexander to the waters of Wheelabout, toward the Scioto Salt Lick.

Adjourned to 25th December.

*December 25, 1806.* The board met agreeably to adjournment, at the house of Leonard Jewett; adjourned to the house of Joel Abbott.

Ordered by the commissioners that the sum of ten dollars be appropriated for the purpose of purchasing blank county orders, stationery, paying postage on letters, etc., and that an order be given to Henry Bartlett, as their clerk for that purpose.

County of Athens to Robert Linzee.	Dr.	
To summoning grand jury July and November terms,	-	\$ 4 00
County of Athens to Thomas Armstrong.	Dr.	
To collecting taxes and delinquencies,	- - - -	6 75

Ordered that Joel Abbott receive orders to the amount of \$65.50, being the balance of his contract for building a jail.

Adjourned to the 10th of January next, at the house of Joel Abbott.

County of Athens to Asahel Cooley, Jun. Dr.	
To three wolf scalps, - - - - -	\$12 00
To Milton Buckingham. Dr.	
To two wolf scalps, - - - - -	8 00
To Hiram Howlett. Dr.	
To one wolf scalp, - - - - -	4 00

Want of space forbids further extracts; we append, however, a statement of the tax assessed in 1808.

*Tax assessed in the County in 1808.*

June 16, 1808. The Board of Commissioners appointed the following persons collectors for the present year, viz:

For Athens township, Michael Barker; for Ames township, John Brown, 2d; for Troy township, Asahel Cooley; for Alexander township, Amos Thompson.

Amount of duplicates of taxes assessed for the year 1808:

Athens.—	Land, - - - - -	\$37 85
	Taxable property, - - - - -	90 47
Ames.—	Land, - - - - -	68 80
	Taxable property, - - - - -	49 67
Troy.—	Land, - - - - -	62 38
	Taxable property, - - - - -	51 20
Alexander.—	Land, - - - - -	6 46
	Taxable property, - - - - -	59 60
		<hr/>
		\$426 43

*County Commissioners from the Organization of the County.*

1805	Silas Dean,	William Howlett,	John Corey—(At special election.)
1805	William Barrows,	"	Samuel Moore—(At regular election.)
1806	Alvan Bingham,	"	Samuel Moore—(At regular election.)
1807	"	Caleb Merritt,	Samuel Moore—(At regular election.)
1808	"	"	Ebenezer Currier.
1809	Asahel Cooley,	"	"
1810	"	Zebulon Griffin,	"
1811	"	"	Seth Fuller.
1812	Ebenezer Currier,	"	"
1813	"	Caleb Merritt,	"
1814	"	"	Robert Linzee.
1815	Daniel Stewart,	Levi Stedman,	"
1816	Caleb Merritt,	Asahel Cooley,	Daniel Stewart.
1817	"	"	Levi Stedman.
1818	George Walker,	Stambro P. Stancliff,	"
1819	"	"	James Gillmore.
1820	"	"	"
1821	"	Edmund Dorr,	"
1822	"	"	"
1823	"	"	"
1824	"	"	"
1825	"	Daniel Stewart,	"
1826	"	"	Justus Reynolds.
1827	"	Harry Henshaw,	"
1828	"	"	"
1829	"	"	"
1830	"	Absalom Boyles,	"
1831	Joshua Hoskinson,	"	"
1832	"	"	"
1833	"	David Jones,	"
1834	"	"	"
1835	"	"	Frederic Abbott.
1836	"	Alfred Hobby,	"
1837	"	"	"
1838	"	"	William R. Walker.
1839	"	Elmer Rowell,	"
1840	"	"	Benj. M. Brown.
1841	"	"	"
1842	"	Arnold Patterson,	"
1843	Silas M. Shepard,	"	"
1844	"	"	Alfred Hobby.
1845	"	Ziba Lindley,	"
1846	"	"	"
1847	"	"	"
1848	James Dickey,	"	"
1849	"	"	"
1850	"	"	Pearley Brown.
1851	"	"	John Elliott.

1852	L. D. Poston,	Ziba Lindley,	John Elliott.
1853	"	"	"
1854	"	William Mason,	"
1855	John Brown,	"	Daniel B. Stewart.
1856	"	"	"
1857	"	Joseph Jewett,	"
1858	"	"	"
1859	John T. Winn,	"	John E. Vore.
1860	"	John Dew,	"
1861	John Brown,	"	"
1862	"	"	G. M. McDougall.
1863	"	Hugh Boden,	"
1864	"	W. F. Pilcher,	"
1865	"	"	"
1866	"	"	"
1867	"	"	"
1868	Thomas L. Mintun,	"	"

### County Auditors.

The first constitution of Ohio provided for the election by the people of only two county officers, viz: sheriff and coroner; other county officers were, during the first eighteen years of the state's history, appointed by the county commissioners or by the associate judges of the respective counties. The office of county auditor was created by act of the legislature, at the session of 1820-21. Before that time the principal duties of the auditor were performed by the county clerk, who was appointed by the commissioners. Henry Bartlett, so long known in the county as "Esquire Bartlett," was clerk, and *ex officio* auditor, from 1806 till March 1821. From this time the successive auditors were:

Joseph B. Miles, appointed by commissioners in 1821, and served nine months.  
 Gen. John Brown, appointed and served till March, 1827.  
 Norman Root, elected 1827 " " 1839.  
 Leonidas Jewett, " 1839 " " 1843.  
 Abner Morse, " 1843 " " 1845.

Leonidas Jewett, elected 1845 and served till March, 1847.  
 E. Hastings Moore, " 1847 " " 1861.  
 Simeon W. Pickering, " 1861 " present time.

#### *County Sheriffs.*

Robert Linzee, appointed April, 1805; Silvanus Ames, appointed November, 1807; Robert Linzee, appointed November, 1809; Thomas Armstrong, elected October, 1813; Isaac Barker, elected October, 1817; Jacob Lentner, elected October, 1821; Calvary Morris, elected October, 1823; Robert Linzee, elected October, 1827; John McGill, elected October, 1829; Amos Miller, elected October, 1831; Joseph Hewitt, elected October, 1835; Joseph H. Moore, elected October, 1839; William Golden, elected October, 1843; J. L. Currier, elected October, 1847; Joseph L. Kessinger, elected October, 1851; Leonard Brown, elected October, 1855; H. C. Knowles, elected October, 1857; Frederic S. Stedman, elected October, 1861; John M. Johnson, elected October, 1863; William S. Wilson, elected October, 1867, and is still in office.

#### *County Recorders.*

		In office.	Recorded what volumes.
Dr. Eliphaz Perkins,	From	1806 to July 1819,	Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4.
Chauncey F. Perkins,	"	July 1819 to May 1826,	" 4, 5.
A. G. Brown,	"	May 1826 to Aug. 1833,	" 5, 6.
Robert E. Constable,	"	Aug. 1833 to Nov. 1835,	" 6, 7.
A. G. Brown,	"	Nov. 1835 to Oct. 1841,	" 7, 8, 9, 10.
Enos Stimson,	"	Oct. 1841 to " 1844,	" 10, 11, 12.
John Boswell,	"	" 1844 to " 1847,	" 12, 13, 14.
A. J. Van Vorhes,	"	" 1847 to " 1850,	" 14, 15, 16.
W. H. Bartlett,	"	" 1850 to Dec. 1854,	" 17, 18, 19, 20, 21.
Frank E. Foster,	"	Dec. 1854 to Nov. 1855,	" 22.
George H. Stewart,	"	Nov. 1855 to June 1861,	" 23, 24, 25, 26.
Norman Root,	"	June 1861 to Jan. 1862,	" 26, 27.
Daniel Drake,	"	Jan. 1862 to " 1868,	" 28, 29, 30, 31, 32.
Josiah B. Allen,	"	" 1868, still in office.	33, 34, 35.

#### *County Treasurers.*

Alvan Bingham, appointed April, 1805; William Harper, appointed June, 1806; Ebenezer Currier, appointed June, 1807; Eliphaz Perkins, appointed March, 1808; William Har-

per, appointed June, 1809; Eliphaz Perkins,\* appointed June, 1811; Amos Crippen, appointed June, 1815; Isaac Barker, appointed June, 1825, elected October, 1825; Amos Crippen, elected October, 1829; Isaac Barker, elected October, 1831; Isaac N. Norton, elected October, 1835, died in December, 1836. Abram Van Vorhes acted first year, and Isaac Barker, second year, by appointment. Isaac Barker, elected October, 1837; Amos Crippen, elected October, 1839; Robert McCabe, elected October, 1841; William Golden, elected October, 1847; Samuel Pickering, elected October, 1853; Leonard Brown, elected October, 1857; Joseph M. Dana, elected October, 1859; Leonard Brown, elected October, 1861; A. W. S. Minear, elected October, 1863; George W. Baker, elected October, 1867, and is still in office.

#### *County Court.*

The first court of common pleas, July 8, 1805, consisted of Robert F. Slaughter, president judge, and Silvanus Ames and Elijah Hatch, associate judges. Henry Bartlett was appointed clerk. Since that time the following judges have acted:

1806—Levin Belt, president judge, and Silvanus Ames, Alexander Stedman, and Abel Miller, associate judges.

In 1807, Judge Ames became sheriff, and Elijah Hatch became judge.

#### \* Extract from county records:

" June 9, 1809. Completed the settlement with Eliphaz Perkins, county treasurer		
Amount of money received by him, as per his book . . . .	\$1,622 36	
Received of him in county orders . . . .	\$1,619 16	
His commissions on same, at 3 per cent. . . .	48 58	
Balance due E. Perkins . . . .		45 38
	\$1,667 74	\$1,667 74



- 1807 to 1812—William Wilson, president judge, and Alexander Stedman, Abel Miller, and Elijah Hatch, associate judges.
- 1813—William Wilson, president judge, and Jehiel Gregory, Silvanus Ames, and Elijah Hatch, associate judges.
- 1814—William Wilson, president judge, and Jehiel Gregory Silvanus Ames, and Ebenezer Currier, associate judges.
- 1815 to 1818—William Wilson, president judge, and Silvanus Ames, Ebenezer Currier, and Elijah Hatch, associate judges.
- 1819—Ezra Osborne, president judge, and Robert Linzee, Ebenezer Currier, and Silvanus Ames, associate judges.
- 1824—Alvan Bingham, associate judge, *vice* Silvanus Ames, deceased.
- 1825—Amos Crippen, associate judge, *vice* Robert Linzee.
- 1826—Edmund Dorr, associate judge, *vice* Ebenezer Currier, and Thomas Irwin, president judge, *vice* Osborne.
- 1827—Elijah Hatch, associate judge, *vice* Amos Crippen.
- 1838—George Walker, associate judge, *vice* Alvan Bingham.
- 1833—Ebenezer Currier, associate judge, *vice* Edward Dorr.
- 1834—David Richmond, associate judge, *vice* Elijah Hatch.
- 1840—John E. Hanna, president judge, *vice* Thomas Irwin.
- 1840—Samuel B. Pruden, associate judge, *vice* Ebenezer Currier.
- 1841—Isaac Barker, associate judge, *vice* D. Richmond.
- 1845—Robert A. Fulton, associate judge, *vice* George Walker.
- 1847—Arius Nye, president judge, *vice* John E. Hanna.
- 1847—Samuel H. Brown, associate judge, *vice* S. B. Pruden.
- 1850—Norman Root, associate judge, *vice* Samuel H. Brown.
- 1850—A. G. Brown, president judge, *vice* Arius Nye.
- 1852—Simeon Nash, elected first judge under new constitution, when associate judges were dispensed with.
- 1862—John Welch elected.
- 1865—Erastus A. Guthrie, appointed, *vice* John Welch, elected supreme judge.
- 1866—E. A. Guthrie elected, and is still in office.

*County Clerks.*

Henry Bartlett, appointed December 1, 1806; served till February 8, 1836.

Joseph M. Dana, appointed February 8, 1836; elected February 22, 1843; served till 1857.

Louis W. Brown, elected 1857, and is still in office.

*Probate Court* (Organized in 1852).

Jacob C. Frost, elected 1852.

Nelson H. Van Vorhes, elected October, 1855; resigned September, 1855.

Daniel S. Dana, appointed September, 1855.

Calvary Morris, elected October, 1855, and is still in office.

*Prosecuting Attorneys.*

1806 to 1809, E. B. Merwin; 1809 to 1810, Benjamin Ruggles; 1810 to 1812, Artemas Sawyer; 1812 to 1813, Alexander Harper; 1813 to 1815, Artemas Sawyer; 1815 to 1816, J. Lawrence Lewis; 1816 to 1817, Thomas Ewing; 1817 to 1820, Joseph Dana, sen.; 1820 to 1822, Samuel F. Vinton; 1822 to 1824, Thomas Ewing; 1824 to 1826, Thomas Irwin; 1826 to 1830, Dwight Jarvis; 1830 to 1835, Joseph Dana, jun.; 1835 to 1839, John Welch; 1839 to 1841, Robert E. Constable; 1841 to 1843, John Welch; 1843 to 1845, Tobias A. Plants; 1845 to 1847, James D. Johnson; 1847 to 1851, Lot L. Smith; 1851 to 1855, Samuel S. Knowles; 1855 to 1857, George S. Walsh; 1857 to 1861, Erastus A. Guthrie; 1861 to 1863, Lot L. Smith; 1863 to present time, Rudolph de Steiguer.

*Population.*

By the census of 1800, Washington county (then including Athens, etc.) had 5,427 inhabitants.

By the census of 1810, Athens county had,

561	males	and	517	females	under	10	years.
234	"	"	210	"	over	10	and under 16 years.
241	"	"	260	"	"	16	" " 26 "
283	"	"	235	"	"	26	" " 45 "
144	"	"	102	"	"	45	years.
<hr/>			<hr/>				
1,463			1,324				

Total population of the county in 1810, - - - - 2,787.

*Population by Townships in 1820.*

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Ames, - - - - -	388	333	721
Athens, - - - - -	582	532	1,114
Alexander, - - - - -	421	433	854
Canaan, - - - - -	193	163	356
Carthage, - - - - -	175	145	320
Dover, - - - - -	330	277	607
Elk, - - - - -	274	271	545
Homer, - - - - -	101	100	201
Lee, - - - - -	185	157	342
Rome, - - - - -	266	231	497
Troy, - - - - -	295	246	541
York, - - - - -	183	158	341
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Aggregate, - - -	3,393	3,046	6,439

NOTE.—It must be borne in mind that the boundaries of some of the townships underwent changes from time to time till March, 1850, since when there have been no changes.

*Population by Townships in 1830.*

Athens village	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	729
Residue of Athens township	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	974
Alexander	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	882
Ames	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	857
Bern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	223
Canaan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	375
Carthage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	395
Coolville village	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84
Residue of Troy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	565
Dover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	550
Lee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	418
Lodi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	276
Elk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	822
McArthurstown village	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69
Residue of Vinton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	109
Homer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	636
Rome	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	522
Trimble	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	190
Nelsonville village	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73
Residue of York	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	798
Waterloo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	216
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,763

*Population by Townships in 1840.*

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Alexander	728	723	1,451
Ames	718	713	1,431
Athens	1,178	1,104	2,282
Bern	196	185	381
Brown	132	125	257
Canaan	421	379	800
Carthage	397	337	734
Dover	679	611	1,290
Elk	647	614	1,261
Homer	451	461	912
Lee	440	408	848
Lodi	394	360	754
Marion	569	510	1,079
Rome	427	425	852
Trimble	385	377	762
Troy	546	510	1,056
Ward	179	157	336

POPULATION BY TOWNSHIPS IN 1840.—*Continued.*

Waterloo	-	-	-	-	-	382	359	741
Vinton	-	-	-	-	-	108	119	227
York	-	-	-	-	-	863	737	1,600
Total, white	-	-	-	-	-	9,840	9,214	19,054
Colored persons	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
Aggregate population	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,109

STATISTICS OF THE COUNTY FOR THE  
YEAR 1850.*Population.*

	White males.	White fem.	Total.	Colored.	Aggregate.
Alexander	869	859	1,728	7	1,735
Ames	780	702	1,482	—	1,482
Athens	1,151	1,179	2,330	30	2,360
Bern	432	387	819	—	819
Canaan	589	553	1,142	—	1,142
Carthage	554	533	1,087	—	1,087
Dover	628	604	1,232	—	1,232
Lee	480	477	957	4	961
Lodi	678	655	1,333	3	1,336
Rome	650	627	1,277	32	1,309
Trimble	482	442	924	—	924
Troy	686	735	1,421	—	1,421
Waterloo	511	487	998	18	1,016
York	745	634	1,379	12	1,391
Total	9,235	8,874	18,109	106	18,215

*Churches, etc., 1850.*

	No. of Churches.	Value.
Baptist	- - - 2	\$ 1,100
Methodist	- - - 12	8,250
Presbyterian	- - - 8	7,000
Roman Catholic	- - - 1	800
Universalist	- - - 1	800
	24	\$17,950

*Agricultural Statistics, 1850.*

Acres of land, improved, in farms -	-	-	82,168	
"    "    unimproved -	-	-	103,109	
Cash value of farms -	-	-	-	\$2,125,967
Value of farming implements and machinery	-	-	-	92,283
Number of horses -	-	-	3,345	
"    milch cows -	-	-	4,302	
"    working oxen -	-	-	1,331	
"    other cattle -	-	-	6,260	
"    sheep -	-	-	359,45	
"    swine -	-	-	15,675	
Value of live stock -	-	-	-	\$314,894
"    slaughtered animals -	-	-	-	75,551

## PRODUCED DURING YEAR ENDING JUNE 1, 1850.

Bushels of wheat -	-	-	-	72,146	
"    rye -	-	-	-	395	
"    Indian corn -	-	-	-	443,546	
"    oats -	-	-	-	74,255	
Pounds of tobacco -	-	-	-	58,356	
"    wool -	-	-	-	92,990	
Bushels of Irish potatoes -	-	-	-	34,447	
"    sweet potatoes -	-	-	-	2,328	
"    buckwheat -	-	-	-	7,095	
Value of orchard products -	-	-	-	-	\$6,199
Pounds of butter -	-	-	-	257,302	
"    cheese -	-	-	-	58,170	
Tons of hay -	-	-	-	12,188	
Bushels of clover seed -	-	-	-	375	
Bushels of other grass seeds -	-	-	-	229	
Pounds of flax -	-	-	-	7,618	
Bushels of flax seed -	-	-	-	348	
Pounds of maple sugar -	-	-	-	28,665	
Gallons of maple molasses -	-	-	-	2,052	
Pounds of beeswax and honey -	-	-	-	9,983	
Value of home made manufactures -	-	-	-	-	\$28,325

## STATISTICS OF THE COUNTY FOR THE YEAR 1860.

### *White Population by Age and Sex.*

			Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 year of age	-	-	324	282	606
1 year and under 5	-	-	1,334	1,343	2,677
5 years	10	-	1,470	1,514	2,984
10 "	15	-	1,422	1,354	2,776
15 "	20	-	1,263	1,225	2,488
20 "	30	-	1,778	1,737	3,515
30 "	40	-	1,213	1,150	2,363
40 "	50	-	835	748	1,583
50 "	60	-	523	503	1,026
60 "	70	-	338	289	627
70 "	80	-	134	119	253
80 "	90	-	41	31	72
90 "	100	-	2	5	7
Above 100	-	-	1	-	1
Total	-	-	10,678	10,300	20,978
Total colored population	-	-	-	-	386
Aggregate	-	-	-	-	21,364

### *Population by Townships, 1860.*

	White males.	White fem.	Total.	Colored.	Aggregate.
Alexander	816	843	1,659	16	1,675
Ames	675	657	1,332	3	1,335
Athens	1,413	1,394	2,807	45	2,852
Bern	482	472	954	68	1,022
Canaan	639	633	1,272	—	1,272
Carthage	579	548	1,127	—	1,127
Dover	722	699	1,421	2	1,423
Lee	565	562	1,127	174	1,301
Lodi	818	780	1,598	—	1,598
Rome	787	749	1,536	45	1,581
Trimble	574	536	1,110	2	1,112
Troy	876	871	1,747	—	1,747
Waterloo	765	701	1,466	17	1,483
York	969	853	1,822	14	1,836
Aggregate	-	-	-	-	21,364

*Churches, etc., 1860.*

	No. of Churches.	Value.
Baptist - - - -	1	\$ 650
“ free-will - - -	5	4,600
Christians - - - -	3	1,825
Episcopal - - - -	2	700
Methodist - - - -	42	23,565
Presbyterian - - -	5	10,550
Cumberland Presbyterian -	1	1,000
Roman Catholic - -	1	800
Union - - - - -	1	600
Universalist - - -	1	600
Total number - - -	62	\$44,890

The valuation of estate, real and personal, in the county, for the year 1860, was:

Real - - - - -	\$6,467,950
Personal - - - - -	2,600,677
	<u>\$9,068,627</u>

*Agricultural Statistics, 1860.*

Acres of land, improved, in farms - - -	129,531
“ “ unimproved - - - -	123,170
Cash value of farms - - - - -	\$4,980,034
Value of farming implements and machinery	156,646
Number of horses - - - - -	5,731
“ asses and mules - - - -	33
“ milch cows - - - - -	5,658
“ working oxen - - - - -	1,558
“ other cattle - - - - -	11,597
“ sheep - - - - -	36,498
“ swine - - - - -	21,447
Value of live stock - - - - -	748,589
Bushels of wheat produced - - - - -	120,082
“ rye - - - - -	721
“ Indian corn - - - - -	641,605
“ oats - - - - -	66,104
Pounds of tobacco - - - - -	275,789
“ wool - - - - -	88,968



Bushels of peas and beans	-	-	-	2,428	
" Irish potatoes	-	-	-	57,261	
" sweet potatoes	-	-	-	3,600	
" barley	-	-	-	476	
" buckwheat	-	-	-	14,930	
Value of orchard products	-	-	-	-	\$17,799
Pounds of butter	-	-	-	634,872	
" cheese	-	-	-	89,213	
Tons of hay	-	-	-	19,278	
Bushels of clover seed	-	-	-	104	
" grass seeds	-	-	-	1,098	
Pounds of hops	-	-	-	356	
Tons of hemp	-	-	-	79	
Pounds of flax	-	-	-	2,774	
Bushels of flax seed	-	-	-	118	
Pounds of maple sugar	-	-	-	22,778	
Gallons of maple molasses	-	-	-	2,549	
" sorghum molasses	-	-	-	28,335	
Pounds of beeswax	-	-	-	554	
" honey	-	-	-	19,540	
Value of home made manufactures	-	-	-	-	15,978
" animals slaughtered	-	-	-	-	122,375

*Manufactures, 1860.*

	Capital Invested.	Annual value of Products.
Blacksmithing	\$1,750	\$ 4,452
Boots and shoes	3,700	16,794
Carriages	8,200	4,113
Clothing	7,100	12,150
Coal	49,450	49,700
Flour and meal	70,400	263,938
Furniture	3,950	4,030
Leather	26,815	29,028
Lumber	32,200	46,944
Machinery	3,000	7,100
Marble and stone work	800	3,500
Pottery ware	1,000	800
Printing	3,000	2,400
Provisions—pork and beef	10,000	12,000
Saddlery and harness	2,700	6,141
Salt	96,000	59,050

**MANUFACTURES, 1860.—Continued.**

Tin, copper, and sheet iron ware - - -	\$1,000	\$2,585
Wagons, carts, etc. - - - - -	1,400	1,700
Wool carding - - - - -	1,500	9,860
<b>Total - - - - -</b>	<b>\$331,665</b>	<b>\$545,002</b>

**Products of Athens County, in the Year 1865-6.**

No. of acres of wheat	13,176,	Number of bushels	104,893
“ “ rye,	153,	“ “	1,450
“ “ buckwheat,	243,	“ “	2,450
“ “ oats	3,403,	“ “	56,445
“ “ corn	15,422,	“ “	546,791
“ “ meadow	15,188,	Tons of hay	18,206
“ “ potatoes	514,	Number of bushels	40,462
“ “ tobacco	168,	“ pounds	136,460
“ “ clover	755,	“ tons hay	799
“ “ sorghum	526,	“ galls. sirup	80,253
No. of lbs. of maple sugar	14,347,	“ “	1,391
“ “ butter	327,480.		
“ “ cheese	27,705.		

Number of sheep in the county, year ending July 1, 1866	75,406
Value - - - - -	\$221,585
Number of hogs in the county, year ending July 1, 1866	12,191
Value - - - - -	\$60,342
Amount of wool produced, year ending July 1, 1866, lbs.	189,183
Number of dogs in the county, “ “	1,082
Number of sheep killed by dogs year ending July 1, 1866	304
“ deeds and leases recorded “ “	713
“ mortgages recorded “ “	144
Amount of money secured by mortgage “ “	\$124,658
Number of crimes indicted during year ending July 1, 1866,	
Against the person - - - - -	16
Against property - - - - -	11
Statutory offenses - - - - -	15
Number of convictions - - - - -	27
Number of marriages during same year - - - - -	352
“ divorces - - - - -	15
“ dwellings erected during same year - - - - -	50
“ barns “ “ “ - - - - -	9
“ factories “ “ “ - - - - -	1
“ school houses “ “ “ - - - - -	2
“ civil judgments rendered during same year - - - - -	91
Amount of “ “ “ “ “ - - - - -	\$55,026 03

The following statement shows the number and value of certain live stock, in the respective townships, as listed by the assessors for taxation, in 1867 :

	MULES.		SHEEP.		HORSES.		CATTLE.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Athens town					98	\$7,815	115	\$3,149
Athens township	2	\$ 125	7,208	\$ 16,235	414	26,803	1,021	18,320
Alexander	2	100	7,808	18,287	520	32,445	1,455	33,265
Ames	9	670	14,139	42,093	552	38,976	1,513	37,176
Bern	7	352	5,090	15,843	324	25,404	796	19,494
Canaan	2	50	3,775	9,003	407	16,806	1,004	20,733
Carthage	3	75	6,976	18,737	377	2,230	936	18,934
Dover	8	516	6,384	14,746	324	21,338	995	22,511
Lee	9	620	3,544	9,355	214	15,050	602	13,880
Albany village	10	470	1,067	2,559	123	9,415	263	6,405
Lodi	9	585	5,217	13,247	564	36,869	1,917	28,691
Rome	9	600	3,142	7,981	431	26,882	1,527	23,732
Troy	4	260	4,364	10,006	336	20,300	917	18,915
Coolville village	11	670	523	1,172	59	4,080	116	2,494
Trimble township	7	210	4,227	10,124	367	21,537	717	14,459
Waterloo	7	489	7,436	22,507	369	24,225	756	16,335
York	8	510	3,098	8,425	338	20,565	768	18,690
Nelsonville village	6	435	17	41	122	8,035	122	2,825
Total	113	\$6,737	84,018	\$220,757	5,939	\$388,675	15,540	\$320,008

*Statement showing the Vote of Athens County at various Elections from 1836 to 1868.*

		Whig.		Democrat.	
1836—President	- - -	Harrison,	1,098	Van Buren,	957
" Governor	- - -	Vance,	966	Baldwin,	736
1838—Governor	- - -	Vance,	1,086	Shannon,	732
1840—President	- - -	Harrison,	2,094	Van Buren,	1,322
1842—Governor	- - -	Corwin,	1,519	Shannon,	1,278
1844—President	- - -	Clay,	2,050	Polk,	1,425
(At this election, Birney, Abolitionist, received 220 votes.)					
1844—Governor	- - -	Bartley,	1,742	Tod,	1,267
(King, Abolitionist, 266.)					
1846—Governor	- - -	Bebb,	1,189	Tod,	1,007
(Lewis, Abolitionist, 209.)					
1848—Congress	- - -	Vinton,	1,580	Tucker,	859
" President	- - -	Taylor,	1,846	Cass,	1,509
(Van Buren, Abolitionist, 320.)					
1850—Congress	- - -	Welch,	1,602	Daniels,	1,208
1851—Governor	- - -	Vinton,	1,294	Wood,	1,162
(Lewis, Abolitionist, 114.)					
1852—President	- - -	Scott,	1,750	Pierce,	1,383
(Hale, Abolitionist, 366.)					
1853—Governor	- - -	Barrere,	849	Medill,	1,272
(Lewis, Abolitionist, 735.)					
1854—Congress	- - -	Horton,	1,628	Smith,	919

## VOTE OF ATHENS COUNTY—Continued.

	Republican.		Democrat.	
1855—Governor - - - (Trimble, Whig, 98.)	Chase,	1,634	Medill,	974
1856—President - - - (Fillmore, American, 154.)	Fremont,	2,299	Buchanan,	1,350
1856—Congress - - -	Horton,	2,183	Medill,	1,270
1857—Governor - - - (Van Trump, American, 14.)	Chase,	1,723	Payne,	1,319
1858—Congress - - -	Van Vorhes,	2,143	Martin,	1,303
" Supreme judge - - -	Peck,	2,105	Bartley,	1,354
1859—Governor - - -	Dennison,	1,843	Ramsey,	1,237
1860—President - - - (Bell, American, 36; Breckenridge, 43.)	Lincoln,	2,526	Douglas,	1,491
1861—Governor - - -	Tod,	2,405	Jewett,	642
1862—Secretary of state - - -	Kenyon,	1,954	Armstrong,	1,194
" Congress - - -	Cutler,	1,965	Morris,	1,185
1863—Governor—home vote - soldiers' vote -	Brough,	2,788 609	Vallandigham,	1,008 16
		3,397		1,024
1864—Secretary of state—home vote soldiers' "	Smith,	2,289 442	Armstrong,	1,175 27
		2,731		1,202
1864—President—home vote - soldiers' vote -	Lincoln,	2,474 566	McClellan,	1,246 72
		3,040		1,318
1864—Congress—home vote - soldiers' vote -	Platts,	2,280 435	Morris,	1,178 14
		2,715		1,192
1865—Governor—home vote - soldiers' vote -	Cox,	2,541 50	Morgan,	1,160 10
		2,591		1,170
1866—Secretary of state - - -	Smith,	2,647	LeFever,	1,210
" Congress - - -	Platts,	2,640	Follett,	1,212
1867—Governor - - -	Hayes,	2,598	Thurman,	1,701
" Constitutional amendment -	" Yes,"	2,278	" No,"	1,904
1868—Congress - - -	Moore,	2,807	Follett,	1,590
" President - - -	Grant,	2,908	Seymour,	1,592

## Post Offices.

Prior to the year 1794, there was no mail route to the northwestern territory, nor any post office north of the Ohio river west of Pittsburg. The only communication the Ohio Company's settlers had with the east

was by private hands, and the receipt of letters or papers was a rare and interesting occurrence. In the year 1794, a route was established from Pittsburg, *via* Washington, Pennsylvania, West Liberty, Virginia, and Wheeling, to Limestone (now Maysville, Kentucky), and Fort Washington (Cincinnati). From Pittsburg to Wheeling the mail was carried by land, and from Wheeling down the Ohio river in small boats, about twenty-four feet long, built much like a whale-boat, and steered with a rudder. Each boat was manned by five persons, well armed and provided against attacks by the Indians. Though not covered, each of the little craft was furnished with a large tarpaulin, which, in case of storm or other necessity, was used to cover the arms, mail bags, etc. The boats, ascending and descending the river, met and exchanged mails at Marietta, Gallipolis, and Maysville. The time consumed was about twelve days from Cincinnati to Wheeling, and about half that time from Wheeling to Cincinnati.\* By this route, the inhabitants of

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\* Though not strictly germane to the subject, we may be excused for presenting some facts concerning the early postal operations of the government, showing the very small beginnings of our present vast and beneficent system.

On the 1st of January, 1790, there were only seventy-five post offices in the United States. There are now more than twenty-four thousand. For the quarter ending December 13, 1789, the total receipts of the post office at New York were \$1,067 08; the emoluments of the post master amounted to \$327 32, and the incidental

Washington county, and afterward those of Athens, received their mail matter once in two or three weeks. In the year 1800, the only post route in southern Ohio was from Zanesville to Marietta. In 1802, a route was established from Marietta, by way of Athens and Chillicothe, to Cincinnati; and in 1804, the route from Marietta to Zanesville was discontinued.

The first post office in the county of Athens, was established at Athens in January, 1804, and the first post master was Jehiel Gregory. The office was kept at his house, across the river, east of Athens, where D. B. Stewart's woolen factory is now situated. The office changed hands in the spring of the same year, and Dr. Eliphaz Perkins was appointed post master,

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expenses of the office were \$36 89. At the Philadelphia post office, the receipts for the same period were \$1,530 73; post master's emoluments, \$315 28, expenses of office, \$77 84. The mail was carried from Philadelphia to Pittsburg once in two weeks. The contracts for carrying the mail to the southward of New York city, for that year, amounted to \$14,973 75; and to the eastward of the same place to \$6,003 15. From New York to Albany, the contractors received all the postage for carrying the mail. The route from Boston to Providence, New London, and New Haven, was an expense to the department of \$520, for that year. The route from Philadelphia to Pittsburg, was an expense of \$800. The department fell in debt \$34 84 for the quarter. In the year 1825, the mail was carried from Wheeling to Zanesville, Ohio, three times a week; from Zanesville to Lancaster, three times a week; from Lancaster to Cincinnati, twice a week; from Marietta to Zanesville, once a week; from Marietta to Chillicothe, twice a week, and from Marietta to Lancaster, once in two weeks. [American State Papers.]

and kept the office for a short time, on State street, near D. M. Clayton's late residence, and afterward, for many years, in the brick building now known as Ballard's corner.

The second post office established in the county was in Ames township, in the year 1821. Loring B. Glazier was the first post master there, and the office received the name of Amesville. Previous to the establishment of this office, Judge Ames, Judge Walker, Doctor Walker, Abel Glazier, Judge Cutler, and other citizens of the neighborhood, taking the Marietta paper, received their papers from the mail carrier, who brought them in a way-bag for distribution, for which service each person was required to pay fifty cents a year to the carrier. During the early years of this century, several copies of the *National Intelligencer* were taken in the Ames settlement. It was received every two weeks, and was at once the great news bringer from the outer world to the little community, and the political gospel of all its readers. The writer has heard an aged relative, herself a staunch adherent of the Jeffersonian school of politics, relate with what eagerness the *Intelligencer* was awaited during the war of 1812, and how its narratives of events, political and military, were devoured by those who could read, and read aloud to those who could not.

The following is a list of the post offices now in operation in the county, in the order of their establish-

ment, with the names of those who have acted as post masters, from the first to the present :

*Athens. Established in 1804.*

Jehiel Gregory, post master	-	-	from 1804	1 quarter.
Eliphaz Perkins	-	-	-	till 1821
John Perkins	-	-	1821	1839
Amos Crippen	-	-	1839	1841
John Perkins	-	-	1841	1845
Amos Crippen	-	-	1845	1849
Wm. Loring Brown	-	-	1849	1853
R. DeSteiguer	-	-	1853	1858
Lot L. Smith	-	-	1858	1861
David M. Clayton	-	-	1861	1865
E. C. Crippen	-	-	1865	1866
John F. Mahon	-	-	1866	1867
William Golden	-	-	1867	present time.

*Amesville. Established in 1821.*

Loring B. Glazier, post master	-	from 1821	till 1829
Robert Henry	-	1829	1834
Hiram Cable	-	1834	1837
N. Dean	-	1837	1841
Loring B. Glazier	-	1841	1842
Hiram Cable	-	1842	1846
Evert V. Phillips	-	1846	1849
Lorenzo Fulton	-	1849	1861
A. W. Glazier	-	1861	1862
Lorenzo Fulton	-	1862	present time.

*Coolville. Established in 1822.*

Jacob S. Miller, post master	-	from 1822	till 1824
Alfred Hobby	-	1824	1840
In 1840, name changed to Hocking City.			
R. B. Blair	-	1840	1841
Eps Story	-	1841	1842
James M. Miller	-	1842	1843
John Pratt	-	1843	1857
In 1844, name changed back to Coolville.			
Joseph K. Davis	-	1857	1862
W. F. Pilcher	-	1862	present time.



*Nelsonville. Established in 1825.*

Daniel Nelson, post master	-	-	from 1825	till 1834
James Knight	-	-	- 1834	1836
John Lillabridge	-	-	- 1836	1839
Henry Parkson	-	-	- 1839	1840
L. D. Poston	-	-	- 1840	1848
John H. Tucker	-	-	- 1848	1850
Charles Cable	-	-	- 1850	1852
Alfred Couden	-	-	- 1852	1855
C. A. Cable	-	-	- 1855	1857
M. A. Stuart	-	-	- 1857	2 quarters.
Joseph Brett	-	-	- 1857	1862
T. L. Mintun	-	-	- 1862	1866
John F. Welch	-	-	- 1866	present time.

*Federalton. Established in 1829.*

Elijah Hatch, post master	-	-	from 1829	till 1835
Alexander Stewart	-	-	- 1835	1837
Peter Beebe	-	-	- 1837	1846
Sydney S. Beebe	-	-	- 1846	1858
Blanford Cook	-	-	- 1858	present time.

*Lee. Established in 1829.*

Jacob Lentner, post master	-	-	from 1829	till 1836
James Wilson	-	-	- 1836	1837
Lucius R. Beckley	-	-	- 1837	1840
J. McCully	-	-	- 1840	1841
Jonathan Winn	-	-	- 1841	1846
John V. Brown	-	-	- 1846	1847
John Earhart	-	-	- 1847	1849
Peter Morse	-	-	- 1849	1853
J. M. Gorsline	-	-	- 1853	1861
Peter Morse	-	-	- 1861	1865
W. W. Kurtz	-	-	- 1865	1866
Augustus Palmer	-	-	- 1866	present time.

*Canaanville. Established in 1834.*

Stephen Pilcher, post master	-	-	from 1834	till 1839
Nehemiah O. Warren	-	-	- 1839	1866
J. Warren Baird	-	-	- 1866	present time.

*Hebbardsville. Established in 1834.*

A. Stearns, post master	- - -	from 1834	till 1835
Abraham Van Vorhes	- - -	1835	1839
Samuel Earhart	- - -	1839	1843
Peter Morse	- - -	1843	1845
Samuel Earhart	- - -	1845	1848
Almus Lindley	- - -	1848	1853
Samuel W. Crabbe	- - -	1853	1858
George Six	- - -	1858	1861
N. L. Wilson	- - -	1861	1865
John J. Coe	- - -	1865	present time.

*Millfield. Established in 1834.*

John Pugsley, post master	- - -	from 1834	till 1836
Josiah True	- - -	1836	1837
William Larue	- - -	1837	1841
David Nesmith	- - -	1841	1848
Joel Sanders	- - -	1848	1851
Henry Brown	- - -	1851	1862
Chester Woodworth	- - -	1862	present time.

*Calvary. Established in 1838.*

Sylvanus Howe, post master	- - -	from 1838	till 1863
William Watson	- - -	1863	1865
George Curfman	- - -	1865	present time.

*Chauncey. Established in 1838.*

Henry Clark, post master	- - -	from 1838	till 1841
Eli House	- - -	1841	1842
Benjamin P. Hubbard	- - -	1842	3 quarters.
G. S. Williams	- - -	1842	1844
Charles R. Smith	- - -	1844	1845
Robert Sharp	- - -	1845	1849
Thomas Anderson, jr	- - -	1849	1851
William M. Edwards	- - -	1851	1853
Robert Sharp	- - -	1853	1855
William M. Edwards	- - -	1855	present time.

*Guysville. Established in 1839.*

Guy Barrows, post master	- - -	from 1839	till 1847
Elvira Barrows	- - -	- 1847	1852
Edward D. Dalbey	- - -	- 1852	1855
Abraham Parrell	- - -	- 1855	1859
Aratus Buckley	- - -	- 1859	1862
E. R. Minear	- - -	- 1862	1864
L. C. Heath	- - -	- 1864	1866
David M. Burchfield	- - -	- 1866	present time.

*Hockingport. Established in 1839.*

(Big Hocking from 1836 till '39.)

Ferdinand Paulk, post master	- - -	from 1836	till 1846
Erastus H. Williams	- - -	- 1846	1861
David P. Scott	- - -	- 1861	1865
Erastus H. Williams	- - -	- 1865	present time.

*Shude. Established in 1839.*

J. M. Waterman, post master	- - -	from 1839	till 1841
John Cather	- - -	- 1841	1845
Charles D. Martin	- - -	- 1845	3 quarters.
Nathan Axtell	- - -	- 1845	1847
James C. Burson	- - -	- 1847	1853
Asbury Cremer	- - -	- 1853	1863
John Burson	- - -	- 1863	present time.

*Trimble. Established in 1841.*

Samuel Porter, post master	- - -	from 1841	till 1849
John S. Dew	- - -	- 1849	1851
Lewis W. Russell	- - -	- 1851	1866
George A. Russell	- - -	- 1866	present time.

*Hulls. Established in 1851.*

Isaac B. Dudley, post master	- - -	from 1851	till 1853
F. R. Stacey	- - -	- 1853	1855
Isaac B. Dudley	- - -	- 1855	1857
B. R. Pierce	- - -	- 1857	1860
John Kinney	- - -	- 1860	1861
S. W. Hull	- - -	- 1861	1866
Windell Shott	- - -	- 1866	present time.

*Lottridge. Established in 1851.*

Edward Lawrence, post master - from 1851 till present time.

*Pleasanton. Established in 1851.*

Franklin Burnham, post master	-	from 1851	till 1855
Nelson Lord	- - - - -	1855	1862
D. Drake	- - - - -	1862	1865
Henry Logan	- - - - -	1865	present time.

*Torch. Established in 1851.*

Nicholas Baker, post master	- -	from 1851	till 1861
Sherman Brewster	- - - - -	1861	1866
Edgar Hallet	- - - - -	1866	present time.

*Woodyards. Established in 1851.*

Robert Figley, post master	- -	from 1851	till 1855
Leven Oliver	- - - - -	1855	present time.

*Garden. Established in 1853.*

John O. Fox, post master	- -	from 1853	till 1855
Daniel S. Johnson	- - - - -	1855	1857
J. R. Evans	- - - - -	1857	1859
John Buck	- - - - -	1859	1861
A. H. Brill	- - - - -	1861	1865
N. F. Woodworth	- - - - -	1865	present time.

*Hartleyville. Established in 1853.*

Martin Shaner, post master	- -	from 1853	till 1855
Benjamin Norris	- - - - -	1855	1866
Samuel Banks	- - - - -	1866	present time.

*New England. Established in 1857.*

T. R. Rider, post master	- - -	from 1857	till 1859
L. R. Jarvis	- - - - -	1859	1865
Daniel F. Wyatt	- - - - -	1865	present time.

*Rock Oak. Established in 1857.*

S. D. Workman, post master	- - -	from 1857	till 1866
Joseph Miller	- - - - -	1866	present time.

*Marshfield. Established in 1859.*

Hugh Baden, post master	- - -	from 1859	till 1865
A. G. Patterson	- - - - -	1865	1866
David Mayhugh	- - - - -	1866	present time.

*Salina. Established in 1866.*

George T. Gould, post master	-	from 1866	till present time
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*Big Run. Established in 1866.*

Thomas Lucas, post master	- -	from 1866	till present time.
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*Kings. Established in 1866,*

Irwin R. King, post master	- -	from 1866	till present time.
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*Agricultural Society.*

The earliest legislation in Ohio relative to the organization of agricultural societies, and designed to encourage that branch of industry, was an act passed February 25, 1832, entitled "an act to authorize and encourage the establishment of agricultural societies in the several counties of this state, and for other purposes therein set forth." The farmers of Athens county had, however, already perceived their interests in this regard, and a society had been formed and a fair held some years before the passage of this act. The society was organized May 19, 1828. The preamble to the constitution recites that,

"We, whose names are annexed, convinced of the benefits resulting to communities from the operations of well regulated agricultural societies, in the means and facilities afforded by them for the attainment and diffusion of useful practical information, and the spirit of emulation and improvement in the culture of the soil, and the domestic manufacture of its products; do form ourselves into an association for the above mentioned purposes, to be called the *Athens County Agricultural Society*, of which the following shall be the constitution."

The constitution provides for the government of the society, by the usual officers and a board of six directors; for terms of membership, annual meetings, and the awarding of premiums "to members and their families for distinguished merit, exertion, discovery, or

improvement in the various branches of husbandry and agricultural economy, household manufactures, etc." At the first meeting, the following persons were appointed and requested to act as agents in soliciting subscriptions to the constitution:

*Athens.*—S. B. Pruden, R. J. Davis, Charles Shipman.

*Alexander.*—Ziba Lindley, jr., Asa Stearns, Daniel Dudley.

*Ames.*—Col. A. Boyles, Geo. Walker, Jacob Boarman.

*Bern.*—James Dickey, Wm. T. Brown, Robert Henry.

*Canaan.*—Parker Carpenter, Martin Mansfield, Harry Henshaw.

*Carthage.*—Francis Caldwell, B. B. Lottridge, Milton Buckingham.

*Dover.*—Josiah True, Daniel Herrold, John Pugsley.

*Elk.*—Thomas Johnson, James Bothwell, Edward Dodge.

*Homer.*—R. S. Lovell, Selah Hart, Wm. Hyde.

*Lee.*—Jacob Lentner, Michael Canny, Wm. Brown.

*Lodi.*—Joseph Thomson, Rufus Cooley, Elam Frost.

*Rome.*—Elijah Hatch, Daniel Stewart, John Thompson.

*Troy.*—Charles Devol, Alfred Hobby, Wm. Barrows.

*Trimble.*—Wm. Bagley, Samuel B. Johnson, James Bosworth.

*Vinton.*—Daniel H. Horton, Isaac Hawk, Samuel Zinn.

*Waterloo.*—Joseph Hewitt, Nathan Robinett, Alexander Young.

*York.*—James Knight, Joseph J. Robbins, Robert Terry.

The next meeting of the society was held at Athens, in July, 1828, and arrangements were made for an exhibition, which was accordingly held, in October of that year, and which was the first agricultural fair held in southern Ohio.

The next annual meeting of the society, for the choice of officers, etc., was announced by A. G. Brown, secretary, to be held "at the court house in Athens, on Thursday, April 16th, at one o'clock, P. M." The secretary, then editing and publishing the *Athens Mirror*, accompanied the call with some judicious remarks as to the importance of sustaining the movement, which would, however, "assuredly flag and fall into disuse, without the frequently renewed and strenuous efforts of those who were convinced of its utility, and friendly to its objects."

In the *Mirror* of April 18, 1829, we are informed that,

"The meeting, though not large, was respectable, and made up in zeal what it wanted in numbers. The peculiarity of this season, by which the advance of vegetation, and, consequently, of the farmer's labor, has been delayed, doubtless prevented the attendance of many who would have wished to be present. The meeting was, notwithstanding, very interesting, and hopes are now entertained of the most beneficial results."

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year, each of whom was requested and expected "to take an active part in promoting the objects of the society."

President, Ziba Lindley, jr.; vice presidents, Christopher Wolf, Athens; Samuel McKee, Alexander; Abel Glazier, Ames; James Dickey, Bern; Joshua Hoskinson, Canaan; Fr. Caldwell, Carthage; John B. Johnson, Dover; Justus Reynolds, Elk; H. Alderman, Homer; Jacob Lentner, Lee; J. Thompson, Lodi; Daniel Stewart, Rome; Wm. Barrows,



Troy ; Wm. Bagley, Trimble ; Geo. Utsler, Vinton ; Joseph Hewitt, Waterloo ; James Knight, York ; treasurer, Thomas Brice ; secretary, A. G. Brown ; directors, Levi Booth, Col. Absalom Boyles, Robert Linzee, Calvary Morris, S. B. Pruden, Isaac Baker.

A week later, April 25th, the directors met at the same place, and resolved that "seventy-five dollars be appropriated, to be awarded as premiums for the encouragement of industry, enterprise and skill, during the present year," and made out their premium list. The premiums were of course small. The largest was for the best stallion, owned and kept by a member of the society, four dollars. The next largest, for the best pair of working oxen and yoke, three dollars. For the best six merino ewes, two dollars ; best beef animal, two dollars, etc. In the list were the following:

"To the person producing evidence of having killed the greatest number of wolves, two young ones to be counted as one old one, three dollars.

Best specimen of sewing silk	-	-	-	\$1 00
Best five yards fulled cloth, 3-4 wide	-	-	-	1 00
Best ten yards linen	-	-	-	1 50
Best straw or grass bonnet	-	-	-	1 00
Best grass scythe	-	-	-	50

On motion, it was

"*Resolved*, That the next annual exhibition be held on the last Thursday in October next (1829)."

Several annual exhibitions were held after this, but in the course of a few years the interest began to flag, local dissensions crept in, and finally the fairs ceased to be held. A lapse of nearly twenty years occurred before the society was revived. In December, 1850, the county commissioners issued a call for a meeting of citizens, to be held on the 13th of January, 1851, for the purpose of organizing an agricultural society. At that meeting, a constitution and by-laws were adopted, and Sabinus Rice was chosen president; Ziba Lindley, vice president; George Putnam, recording secretary; A. B. Walker, corresponding secretary; Joseph M. Dana, treasurer; and Henry Brawley, Eleazur Smith, Hiram Stewart, P. W. Boyles, and James Dickey, managers. Since that time, several annual fairs have been held, and there has been a steady and gratifying growth of interest in the society. The present officers are, Charles L. Wilson, president; Peter Long, vice president; Nelson H. Van Vorhes, treasurer; A. W. Glazier, secretary; and Joseph Higgins, George Putnam, A. W. Glazier, A. S. Tidd, A. N. Vorhes, N. Warren, Cyrus Blazer, and Charles R. Smith, directors.

#### *Topography and Minerals.*

The county contains about four hundred and eighty-four square miles of land, some portions of which are admirably adapted for grazing and agricultural purposes, while others are rich in minerals. It is well

watered by the Hockhocking river and its tributaries, Sunday creek, Monday creek, Margaret's creek, Federal creek, Shade river, etc. The Hockhocking, entering at the northwestern corner of York township, traverses the county diagonally for a distance of about fifty miles, flowing into the Ohio river in Troy township. The average width of the stream throughout the county is about fifty yards. The region drained by its numerous tributary streams, and which may be called its valley, will average about twenty miles in width. The whole extent of the valley (in Athens county) is hilly and broken, the hills rising from two hundred to three hundred feet above the beds of the neighboring streams, which, in times past, appear to have worn their way through the strata, so as to give the surface of the country, once a plain, the features which we now observe. The alluvial lands of the Hockhocking and its tributaries are very rich, though liable to occasional overflow from the sudden floods that take place in all the streams of this region. The hill lands are covered with a fertile soil, and clothed with a heavy growth of forest trees.

*Coal.*

Of this wonderful product of nature—so mysterious in its origin, and so incalculably useful to the comfort and industries of men—vast deposits exist within the

county, there being at least eight or ten beds, or veins, varying in thickness from a few inches to several feet.

It is probable that the most valuable vein is that one which, as it has been most extensively worked in the vicinity of Nelsonville, has been called the "Nelsonville coal." This bed is unquestionably one of the most, if not the most, valuable in the state; not only on account of its superior quality and its proximity to canal and railroad facilities, but also for the comparative ease with which it can be obtained. The average thickness of the vein may be rated at six feet, but it varies from five to nine. As we descend the river from Nelsonville, it gradually dips and finally disappears below the bed of the Hockhocking, about five miles below Nelsonville, on section eight, in York township. Taking into account the fall of the river, the dip between the two places is between twenty and twenty-five feet per mile, in a south or southeast direction. West of Nelsonville, it extends up the river, gradually becoming more elevated until it runs out on the tops of the hills, three or four miles above the town. The same vein has been traced over to the head waters of Raccoon, in Waterloo township.

About a mile and a half northeast from the point where the vein above described dips *below* the river, occurs a bed of coal about forty feet *above*. It is found in the eastern part of Dover township. This vein, sometimes called the "Denman vein," has been

opened in several places east of this point, as far as Sunday creek, at the mouth of which it is found near the bed of the stream. North of this it extends into Trimble township.

Another bed, sometimes designated as the "Federal creek coal," occupies an area, from north to south through the county, of from six to ten miles in width, embracing the townships of Lodi, Carthage, Rome, Canaan, Ames, and Bern. Several shafts have been opened near Big run, in Rome township, and from seven hundred to a thousand bushels of excellent coal have been shipped from that point daily during most of the last year. This vein is best disclosed along Federal creek and its branches, and from a point about two miles above the mouth of Federal, it can be found upon almost every section to the north part of the county, varying in thickness from four to eight feet, while its average is not perhaps over five. This vein has not been so extensively worked as the Nelsonville, but of its existence in vast quantities, of its good quality, and of the potent influence which at some future day it will exert on the wealth and prosperity of this section of country, there can be no doubt. The aggregate amount of coal that may be mined within the county has been estimated, by competent authority, at two thousand five hundred millions of tons.

Thus the Creator, working through the agencies of

nature, has deposited, where the industry of future generations will make it available, this incalculable store of fossil fuel which will not only supply, for ages, the region it pervades, but will form an article of extensive commerce with other sections and states. Heretofore only about one hundred thousand tons of coal have been annually mined in the county; but the greatly increased railroad facilities which the coal region will soon enjoy, must give a powerful impetus to this important branch of industry. The Mineral railroad, now nearly finished, from Mineral station, on the Marietta and Cincinnati railroad, northerly, some five miles into the coal region, commands access to very extensive deposits, and ample preparations are making for placing the coal in market. The Hocking Valley railroad, also, extending from the capital of the state to Athens, seventy-three miles, will soon be completed, thus opening up the central and northern parts of the state, and even the great northwest, to be supplied with cheap fuel from the hills of Athens county. Already, and more and more each successive year, the industry of the county feels the healthful effects of the growing coal business. But who can say—what imagination shall dare to conceive—the influence which will probably be exerted by these exhaustless coal fields on the society of a hundred years hence? Then, when the population of the state of Ohio may be twenty million souls; when the commercial metropolis of

the state may exceed in population the present city of New York; when the smoke of many great manufacturing cities shall roll over the land; when almost every acre shall support its family, and the ground shall be tilled up to the edges of the railroad tracks, *then* this rich mineral region of southern Ohio, will have taken its proper place in the march of progress.

*Iron.*

In natural sequence to coal, without which it can not be utilized, comes *iron*—the weapon, the utensil, the lever, the support of modern civilization. Of this metal, which, in its countless uses, enters so largely into the demands of agriculture, commerce, science, and art, there are very extensive deposits in the county. Though, as yet, the manufacture of iron has never been undertaken in the county, excellent iron ore exists here in great abundance, and in close proximity to the great coal mines in the northwestern part of the county. The most continuous and probably the most valuable deposit, is a few feet below the Nelsonville coal. This is a heavy, compact ore, of a bluish color, and the vein varies in thickness from eight to twelve inches. In explorations for this ore, the Nelsonville coal affords a sure guide. It is found on the head waters of Monday creek, in Trimble township; on Meeker's run, in York township, and along the branches of Raccoon, in Waterloo. The vein is well

exposed at other points, and probably extends through the southeast part of the county. There are also exposures of other veins in different parts of the county, affording conclusive evidence that iron ore, suitable for smelting, exists here in large quantities.

*Salt.*

The production of *salt* in the county, has been long and successfully tested. For more than twenty years about fifty thousand barrels of excellent salt have been annually produced in the county. Salt water, varying in strength from six to nine per centum, is found in several localities, by boring from six hundred to eight hundred feet; and the brine thus obtained is speedily reduced to salt by the use of coal, which is generally conveniently at hand, and is found to be the cheapest fuel known for the purpose.

The principal operators are M. M. Greene & Co., at Salina; Messrs. Ewing & Vinton, in Chauncey; Mr. Joseph Herrold, near Athens; and Pruden Brothers, at Harmony, two miles below Athens, in Canaan township.

*During the War of the Rebellion.*

During the terrible four years, from 1861 to 1865, in which the government waged a tremendous war to preserve its own existence, and the union of the states, Athens county was not behind any portion of the loyal



north, in the promptness and zeal of her responses to every call. According to the United States census report of 1860, the number of male inhabitants of the county in that year, between the ages of fifteen and fifty, both inclusive, was five thousand and eighty-nine. The county furnished to the government during the war, in all, two thousand six hundred and ten soldiers,\* or more than fifty per cent. of her men able to bear arms. In other words, of the able-bodied men in the county, every other one left his business and his family to assist in suppressing the rebellion. This is a record of which the county may well be proud—a record which *no county in the state of Ohio*, and, we dare say, few counties in all the northern states, can surpass. And it should be added that no draft was ever made in the county. What she did was done voluntarily, and stands as a lasting monument of her patriotism. During this trying period, the mass of her people, women not less than men, were profoundly stirred, and a loyal zeal pervaded all. For directing that zeal and organizing it into acts, for keeping up the patriotic fervor, and giving it practical, constant, and continuous expression, great credit belongs to the military committee of the county. During nearly the whole of

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\* This is the number that served in the army, and does not include one thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven men who volunteered and served in repelling the "Morgan raid," in 1863, nor one hundred and sixty "squirrel hunters," who hurried to the defense of Cincinnati, in 1862.

the war that committee consisted of Henry T. Brown, M. M. Greene, James W. Bayard, Lot L. Smith, Simeon W. Pickering, Joseph M. Dana, E. H. Moore, and W. R. Golden.

But even far more deserving than these of lasting remembrance and perpetual honor, were the men of the county who volunteered and served the country in the field. If it were possible, we should have liked to record here, as a small tribute to their patriotism, the name of every Athens county volunteer, officers and privates. It would have been a list of heroes. Our efforts, however, to obtain such a complete list have proved unavailing, and we can only present the following exhibit, which is accurate.\* These figures furnish but a bald outline of the stirring and tragic history of the war period. It is easy to write that Athens county contributed two thousand six hundred and ten men to fight for the Union, but this statement conveys not even a suggestion of the events that were transpiring in her borders during those years. Meetings were held by day and night in all parts of the county, local

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\* The materials for such a perfect list probably exist in the war department, at Washington, and among the state records, at Columbus, but at present in such a scattered and confused shape, as to render it entirely out of our power to present a complete list, and a partial one would have been worse than none. Some of the states have published a complete list, giving the name of every volunteer furnished by them during the war, with his county and residence. It is to be hoped that Ohio will eventually do this.

committees appointed in every township, christian commission and aid societies organized, and all these appliances again and again started, with renewed energy as the government repeated its calls for help. Scarcely a family but contributed its quota, and the vacant places in many a one remain unfilled to-day. Some families gave all their men; one widow gave five sons,\* and grim-visaged war crossed nearly every threshold, claiming the services of the bravest and best. All these things, with many others, and the names of those who enlisted, would properly appear in a history of the county during the rebellion; but that would form a volume of itself.

*Abstract of Soldiers in the United States and State Service, furnished by Athens County, in the War of the Great Rebellion.*

Townships.	No. in U. S. army.	No. of 100 days' men.	Total.
Athens -	267	96	363
Alexander -	162	58	220
Ames -	142	—	142
Bern -	108	—	108
Carthage -	112	—	112
Canaan -	117	10	127
Dover -	154	30	184
Lee -	117	68	185
Lodi -	143	39	182
Rome -	156	54	210
Trimble -	143	27	170
Troy -	181	—	181
Waterloo -	162	—	162
York -	226	38	264
Total	2,190	420	2,610

\* Mrs. Anna Barrows, of Rome township.

## CHAPTER VI.

## Town and Township of Athens.

THE records of the Ohio Company show that on the 9th of November, 1790, a committee of three was appointed to reconnoiter and survey the lands of the Company lying on the upper Hockhocking. This committee consisted of Jonathan Devol, Robert Oliver and Haffield White, and was styled "the reconnoitering committee." Owing, however, to Indian hostilities, the work was deferred some years and the regular survey of Athens and adjoining townships was not begun till January, 1795. The surveying party, which came up the Hockhocking river in canoes, was accompanied by a guard of fifteen men, as the Indian war had hardly closed and it was feared that bands of the savages might be found lurking in these deep forests. But none were met with, and the survey was completed during the ensuing spring and summer.\*

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\* We quote from the records of the Ohio Company, December

Some account of the first settlement of the town of Athens and of its history up to the organization of the county is given in Chapter IV. The township as established by the county commissioners at their first meeting included territory which now forms five townships, viz: Swan and Brown, of Vinton county, and Waterloo, Canaan and Athens of Athens county. Thus though not so extensive as Alexander or Ames, Athens township nevertheless included a large extent of country. It was, for that period, a fair two days' journey across the township; and although the country was now emerging from the condition of an unbroken wilderness,

“Where beasts with men divided empire claim,  
And the brown Indian marks with murderous aim.”

8th, 1795, the following report of the committee for examining the lands on the Hockhocking, suitable for fifth division lots:

“We, the subscribers, being appointed a committee by a resolve of the agents of the Ohio Company of the 9th of November, 1790, and for the purpose expressed in said resolve, but being prevented from attending to that business by the Indian war, until a treaty took place, since which (in company with Jeffrey Matthewson, a surveyor appointed by the superintendent of surveys), having measured and very minutely examined the lands of the Hockhocking, report: That in range 14, township 10, the following sections or mile squares, viz: No. 13, 19, 20, 25, 31, and 32; in range 15, township 12, sections No. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 17, 23, 24, 30, 35, and 36; in range 16, township 12, sections No. 5, 12, and 18; in range 16, township 13, sections No. 13, 14, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 33 and 34, we find are suitable to be laid out in fifth division lots agreeably to a map herewith exhibited. Having also examined and surveyed the and at the mouth of the great Hockhocking we find it very suitable for house lots and in quantity according to the map herewith exhibited.

JONATHAN DEVOL, }  
ROBERT OLIVER, } Committee.”  
HAFFIELD WHITE, }

it was still very wild and thinly populated. The Rev. James Quinn, a pioneer Methodist preacher who died in Highland county at an advanced age in 1847, settled in Ohio in 1804. The same year he and the Rev. John Meek were appointed to the "Hockhocking circuit," which embraced not only the Hockhocking valley but also the settlements on the Muskingum and on the Scioto from the high bank below Chillicothe up to the neighborhood of where Columbus now stands. In 1805 Mr. Quinn was returned to the same circuit with the Rev. Joseph Williams as his colleague. A camp-meeting, probably the first ever held in the county, was held by Bishop Asbury and Mr. Quinn near the town of Athens in 1810. Mr. Quinn states that it lasted four days, and that Bishop Asbury preached two powerful sermons. In his autobiography, published many years since, Mr. Quinn says:

My first missionary excursion up the Hockhocking valley was performed in December, 1799. Leaving the vicinity of Marietta I ascended the Muskingum to the mouth of Wolf creek and then took the trace to Athens and the falls of Hockhocking. But, taking the right hand trace I left Athens to the left and passing through Amestown, struck the Hockhocking at the identical spot where Nelsonville now stands. There, at the foot of a large beech tree, I stopped and prayed. Having given my horse his mess of corn, and eaten my piece of pone and meat, I cut my name on the beech, mounted poor Wilks and went on. Between sundown and dark I reached the old Indian town near the falls. Here I found three families. They came together and I preached to them. I passed on up the river as far as

there were any settlements, spending nearly a week with the people in the vicinity of where Lancaster now is. I then returned by the way I had come and stopped again at my beech tree. Saturday night found me at Athens and in comfortable lodgings at the house of a Mr. Stevens. The people came together the next day, which I think was the first sabbath of January, 1800. I took for my text St. Paul's language to the Athenians of old, 'Of this ignorance,' etc. There were a few Methodists in the region round about, and we had a refreshing time."

This Mr. Quinn was ordained by Bishop Whatcoat, who was ordained by Wesley himself.

Between this time and the organization of the county in 1805 steps were taken by the trustees of the university toward establishing the town.

On the 6th of June, 1804, they passed an "ordinance providing for the sale of lots in the town of Athens." Sec. 1 appointed Rufus Putnam and Samuel Carpenter to survey and lay off the town of Athens agreeably with the rule of the resolution of the legislature of December 18th, 1799. Sec. 2 directed the treasurer of the university to have the town plat recorded. Sec. 3 directed Putnam and Carpenter, after due notice, to sell on the first Monday of November, 1804, at public auction, twenty-seven house-lots and an equal number of out-lots at their discretion, excepting and reserving house-lots number 57 and 58. The remaining sections related to the form of certificate and lease to be given.

The sale took place November 5th, 1804, and with the following result:

No. of lot.	Purchaser.	Price.	Purchaser's residence.
1	John Havner, - - - - -	\$132 00	Athens.
4	Wm. McNichol - - - - -	46 00	Salt works.
7	Silas Bingham - - - - -	40 50	Athens.
10	Jarrett Jones - - - - -	27 00	Middletown.
13	Silas Bingham - - - - -	62 00	Athens.
16	Silvanus Ames - - - - -	51 00	Ames.
19	Moses Hewitt - - - - -	61 00	Middletown.
23	Wm. McNichol - - - - -	25 00	Salt works.
26	Eliphaz Perkins - - - - -	30 00	Athens.
28	" - - - - -	101 00	"
29	Rufus Putnam - - - - -	59 00	Marietta.
32	John Simonton - - - - -	27 00	Middletown.
36	John Johnson - - - - -	20 00	Wheeling.
40	Rufus Putnam - - - - -	20 00	Marietta.
43	" - - - - -	30 00	"
46	Henry Bartlett - - - - -	17 00	Middletown.
49	Canaday Lowry - - - - -	14 00	"
52	Daniel Mulford - - - - -	13 00	"
55	Jehiel Gregory - - - - -	42 00	"
59	Timothy N. Wilkins - - - - -	22 00	"
63	John Wilkins - - - - -	10 00	"
65	Rufus Putnam - - - - -	30 00	Marietta.
68	Wm. McNichol - - - - -	23 00	Salt works.
71	" - - - - -	30 00	"
73	" - - - - -	101 00	"
74	Wm. Dorr - - - - -	65 00	Middletown.
77	Wm. McNichol - - - - -	42 00	Salt works.

On the 2nd of April, 1806, Rufus Putnam and Dudley Woodbridge were appointed a committee to conduct a second sale of town lots, which took place November 25, 1806. Some of the lots previously sold were sold again, payments having not been made. The following is the report of the second sale:



No. of lot.	Purchaser.	Price.	No. of lot.	Purchaser.	Price.
1	Joel Abbott,	\$72 00	24	Moses Hewitt,	\$11 00
2	"	40 50	25	Rufus Putnam,	16 00
3	Ebenezer Currier,	36 50	27	Samuel Luckey,	14 00
4	Wm. Skinner,	15 00	29	Wm. Skinner,	16 00
5	Silvanus Ames,	15 00	30	Joseph Buell,	15 00
6	Leonard Jewett,	15 00	31	B. Seamans,	20 00
8	"	15 00	32	Joseph Buell,	11 00
9	"	13 00	33	Wm. Skinner,	35 00
10	John Walker,	12 50	34	Rufus Putnam,	26 00
11	Wm. Skinner,	7 50	36	Moses Hewitt,	18 00
12	John Walker,	26 00	38	David Boyles,	17 00
14	Silvanus Ames,	35 00	39	Timothy Wilkins,	14 00
15	Wm. Dorr,	18 00	40	Dudley Woodbridge,	11 00
16	Silvanus Ames,	15 00	41	Timothy Wilkins,	17 00
17	Ebenezer Currier,	52 00	42	Dudley Woodbridge,	10 00
19	Moses Hewitt,	35 00	43	Benajah Seamans,	12 00
20	"	40 00	44	Jehiel Gregory,	6 00
21	Silas Bingham,	15 00	45	Henry Bartlett,	6 00
22	"	22 00	47	Jehiel Gregory,	6 00
23	Rufus Putnam,	10 00	48	Moses Hewitt,	6 00

The first act passed by an Ohio legislature relative to the navigability of any stream was passed February 15, 1808, and entitled "An act for the navigation of the Hockhocking." It declared that stream to be navigable from its mouth to Rush creek and affixed penalties for obstructing its channel. The first act passed in the state authorizing the construction of a mill dam conferred this privilege on two citizens of Athens. It was passed February 21, 1805, and entitled "An act authorizing Jehiel Gregory, and John Havner, their heirs and assigns, to erect a mill dam across the Hockhocking river."

Sec. 1, authorized these persons "to build a mill on the Hockhocking river, and erect a mill dam across said river opposite to out-lot number ten (10) in the town of Athens, which mill and dam when completed

are hereby vested in the said Gregory and Havner, their heirs and assigns, so long as they shall have a legal right to the before mentioned lot."

Sec. 2, enacted that they should make "in the mill dam aforesaid a good and sufficient lock, or apron, constructed in such manner that the free navigation of the river shall not be obstructed."

Sec. 3, required them to pilot and assist all persons or craft passing up or down the stream over said lock or apron without fee or reward.

Sec. 4, required them to complete the dam within five years, and to keep the same in good repair; and Sec. 6, imposed a fine of five dollars for refusing to assist or pilot any person or craft passing up or down the stream over the dam, or for receiving any fee or reward therefor.

Under this act a dam was constructed and mill built in 1805 and 1806, the latter known as Gregory's mill, east of town where D. B. Stewart's mill now stands. In 1832, Messrs. J. B. and R. W. Miles built a large flouring mill at this site, which has been occupied by a mill continuously since 1806. From 1843 till 1853 this mill was in the hands of Mr. Andrew Kessinger, well remembered here as an upright man of business; he was the father of Mr. Joseph L. Kessinger now an active citizen of Athens. The Herrold mill as it is now called, was built by Capt. Silas Bingham in 1816. Previous to his death (which

occurred in 1840) Capt. Bingham rented the mill to his step-son, Joseph Herrold, who in 1844 became and still continues the owner of the property. Judge Pruden established his business of carding wool, cloth-dressing, etc., at this mill about 1826 and continued it for several years, when he removed to a new point about two miles below Athens on the river and built up the mills, salt works and other improvements now called Harmony, in Canaan township.

In early times, and for many years after the organization of the county, the passage of the river was made by ferry boats—little scows which were poled and rowed across. In 1800 there was a ferry kept by old Arthur Coates (called Coates's ferry) a few rods below where the south bridge now stands, and another one called Harper's ferry, kept by Wm. Harper, about 100 yards above where the Marietta and Cincinnati railroad crosses the Hockhocking, west of Athens—just where the road turns. Mr. Harper lived a short distance the other side of the river, and Isaac Barker, at that time, in a log house situated on this side and about where the road now turns southward. It was at that time expected that a town would grow up at this ferry, and it was named rather prematurely, Elizabethtown, after a woman who accompanied Mrs. Margaret Snowden to the settlement—her surname is forgotten.

The rates of ferriage for man and beast, loaded teams, etc., were fixed yearly by the county commis-

sioners. There are now several excellent bridges in the township. The East bridge, as it is called, was built about 1834, by Joseph B. and R. W. Miles, and their associates. Isaac Jackson was the principal mechanic, assisted by Oliver Childs. This bridge was modeled after the bridges at Zanesville, Ohio, then recently built by the Buckinghams. The West bridge was built in 1836, and by the same mechanic, Isaac Jackson. The South bridge was built in 1839; Samuel Miller was the principal mechanic, assisted by Francis Beardsley. All three of these bridges were built under acts of incorporation, making them *toll* bridges, but have since been made free by voluntary contributions of the citizens, aided by appropriations of the county. There are two other good bridges in the township, across Margaret's creek, one at its mouth, near the Bingham mills, and the other about a mile above, at the old Goodrich saw mill. Both of these were mainly built by Joseph Herrold, on subscriptions of the neighboring citizens, and appropriations by the county.

The town of Athens had been "confirmed and established," by a legislative act of December 6, 1800; it was regularly incorporated by an act, passed January 28, 1811, entitled "an act to incorporate the town of Athens, and for other purposes." This act enacted that "so much of the township of Athens, county of Athens, as is contained in the plat of the town of

Athens, as recorded in the recorder's office in the county of Washington, be and the same is hereby erected into a town corporate, to be known and distinguished by the name of the town of Athens." It provided for an annual election of a town council and other officers. It also authorized and directed "the trustees of the Ohio university to lease to the county commissioners, on a nominal rent, for ninety-nine years, renewable forever, in-lots Nos. 35 and 37, on which the court house and jail now stand, and also in-lot No. 18, reserved for the purpose of building a school and meeting house;" also, to lease, on the same terms, the grounds reserved for a burying ground.

This act of incorporation was amended February 15, 1812, when the trustees of the Ohio university were authorized and directed to lease to the Methodist society in the town of Athens, on the foregoing terms, "a piece of the public commons which adjoins out-lot No. 61, beginning at the S. E. corner of said lot, thence E. four chains, thence N. eight chains, thence W. four chains, thence S. to the place of beginning—for the use of the said Methodist society, and to build a meeting house thereon for the purposes of worship."

During the next half century, the population of the town and township increased but slowly. The extreme inaccessibility of the town during a long period, from the absence of railroad or other good communications, prevented a large immigration, while the superior agri-

cultural advantages of states lying further west, have drawn away, from time to time, numbers of the citizens. In 1820, the population of the township was 1,114; in 1830, it was 1,703; in 1840, it was 2,282; in 1850, it was 2,360; and in 1860, it was 2,852. The present population of the town of Athens is about two thousand. It is handsomely situated, and, for a town of its class, well built. With a healthful location, in the midst of a region abounding in natural beauties of an uncommonly attractive and picturesque order, and with a quiet and intelligent population, Athens may justly be regarded as a pleasant place of residence. There is good reason also to believe that the future growth of the town will exceed the past. It is now accessible by one railroad, and will soon be the terminus of another. We have, elsewhere in these pages, adverted to the great mineral wealth of the county, and it can not be doubted that these attractions will eventually draw a large and valuable immigration to this point.

A recent triumph of the liberality and active enterprise of the citizens of Athens merits a conspicuous mention—we refer to the securing of the new lunatic asylum. January 17, 1866, Dr. W. P. Johnson, representative from Athens county in the state legislature, caused a resolution to be offered, through Mr. Lockwood, of Licking county, instructing “the committee on benevolent institutions to inquire what

action is necessary by the general assembly, to do justice to the incurable insane, and report, by bill or otherwise," which passed the house. February 21, 1866, Dr. Johnson, chairman of the committee aforesaid, reported, by direction of the committee, a "bill to provide for the erection of an additional lunatic asylum, and for the enlargement of the northern and southern lunatic asylums." Meanwhile a flood of light was thrown on the condition of the incurable insane, within the state, by a committee of the state medical society, whose thorough and exhaustive reports on the subject, Dr. Johnson brought before the legislature, contributing much to the success of his measure. His bill, entitled "an act to provide for the erection of an additional lunatic asylum," became a law, April 13, 1867. It provided for the appointment, by the governor, of three trustees, to select and purchase, or receive by gift or donation, a lot of land, not less than fifty nor more than one hundred acres, suitably located for the erection of an asylum, to contain four hundred patients. Mr. W. E. Davis, of Cincinnati, Mr. D. E. Gardner, of Toledo, and Dr. C. McDermont, of Dayton, were appointed trustees; a vacancy occurring in this committee, through the death of Dr. McDermont, Mr. E. H. Moore, of Athens, was appointed in his place. There were various competing points, and for some time the contest was sharp and close; but through the superiority of her claims, the sagacity

of her representative, and the liberality of her citizens, Athens finally eclipsed all rivals and secured the asylum. To carry the point, the citizens purchased and made a gift to the state of one hundred and fifty acres of land, lying south of the town, known as the Coates farm. The site is faultless. The land lies beautifully, overlooking the valley of the Hockhocking, with its encircling hills, and commanding on every side a picturesque and varied view. The location was fixed by the trustees in August, 1867. Contracts for the excavation have been let to Messrs. Maris & McAboy; for the brick (about 12,000,000) to Messrs. D. W. H. Day and James W. Sands; and for the masonry to William McAboy. The entire length of the building will be about eight hundred feet, and its cost about four hundred thousand dollars. It will be an elegant and important feature of the place, and can not fail to attract public attention to the town and county.

*Officers of the Town of Athens.*

The town records from 1811, the date of incorporation, to 1825, are lost. In 1825, James Gillmore was president of the town council, and Joseph B. Miles recorder.

At an election held in the town of Athens, March 6, 1826, the number of votes cast was forty-three, and the following persons were elected members of the



town council, viz.: Thomas Brice, by thirty-four votes; Columbus Bierce, by thirty-four votes; Ebenezer Currier, by thirty-one votes; John Brown 2d, by forty-three votes; and Joseph B. Miles, by twenty-three votes. The following town officers were elected: Samuel Knowles, marshal; Eben Foster, supervisor; A. G. Brown, treasurer; Calvary Morris, collector; John Gillmore, assessor. The council elected Ebenezer Currier, president, and Joseph B. Miles, recorder.

*March 5, 1827.*—Charles Shipman, Columbus Bierce, John Brown 2d, Thomas Brice, and Isaac Taylor, were elected councilmen; William W. Bierce, marshal; John Gillmore, assessor; James J. Fuller, collector; A. G. Brown, treasurer; Eben Foster, supervisor. The council elected Columbus Bierce, president, and John Brown 2d, recorder, for the ensuing year.

*March 10, 1828,* an election was held, pursuant to an act of the legislature, passed January 24, 1828, entitled "an act to incorporate the town of Athens, in the county of Athens." Nine councilmen were chosen, whose term of office was afterward decided by lot, as follows, viz: Joseph Dana, Thomas Brice, and Jeremiah Olney, to serve three years; Isaac Barker, John Gillmore, and Amos Crippen, to serve two years; and Ebenezer Currier, Eliphaz Perkins, and Norman Root, to serve one year. The council elected, of their own number, Joseph Dana, mayor, and Norman Root, recorder; and they appointed, from the citizens, A. G. Brown, treasurer, John McGill, marshal, John Porter, surveyor of wood and lumber, and William Golden, clerk of the market.

*March 9, 1829.*—Joseph Dana was elected mayor; Ebenezer Currier, Calvary Morris, and Norman Root, councilmen; and John McGill marshal. Norman Root was chosen recorder for the ensuing year, A. G. Brown, treasurer, and John Porter,

surveyor of wood and lumber. The mode of electing the mayor and marshal had been changed by an act of the legislature, passed February 9, 1829, which made these officers elective by the people, instead of by the town council.

*March 8, 1830.*—John Gillmore, Amos Crippen, and Isaac Barker, were elected to the town council, for three years, and John Perkins for one year; Joseph Dana was elected mayor, and John Sampson, marshal. Norman Root was appointed recorder, John Porter, surveyor of wood and lumber, and Dr. A. V. Medbury, treasurer.

*March 14, 1831.*—Joseph Dana, Thomas Brice, and John Perkins, were elected councilmen; Joseph Dana was elected mayor, and John Sampson, marshal. The council appointed Norman Root, recorder, Dr. A. V. Medbury, treasurer, and Wm. D. Bartlett, surveyor of wood and lumber for ensuing year.

*March 12, 1832.*—Hull Foster, Wm. D. Bartlett, and Francis Beardsley, were elected councilmen; John Gillmore, mayor, and Thomas Francis, marshal. The council appointed Thomas Brice recorder, and Dr. Medbury, treasurer.

*March 11, 1833.*—Samuel Miller, Oliver Childs, and Isaac N. Norton, were elected councilmen; Samuel Miller, mayor, and John Sampson, marshal. Joseph Dana was appointed recorder, and Dr. Medbury, treasurer.

*March 10, 1834.*—Thomas Francis, A. B. Walker, and Charles Cunningham, were elected councilmen; Samuel Miller, mayor, and John Sampson, marshal. A. B. Walker was appointed recorder, for the ensuing year, and Dr. Medbury, treasurer.

*March 9, 1835.*—Norman Root, James J. Fuller, and Francis Beardsley, were elected councilmen; Samuel Miller, mayor, and John Sampson, marshal. Edgar P. Jewett was appointed treasurer, and A. B. Walker, recorder, for ensuing year.

*March 14, 1836.*—I. N. Norton, John Welch, and Leonidas Jewett, were elected councilmen; I. N. Norton, mayor, and

Cyrus Gibson, marshal. John Welch was appointed recorder, and P. S. Baker, treasurer.

*March 13, 1837.*—Henry Bartlett, John N. Dean, Cephas Carpenter, and Thomas Francis, were elected councilmen; Henry Bartlett, mayor, and Samuel Miller, marshal. Norman Root, appointed recorder, and P. S. Baker, treasurer.

Record of 1838 missing.

*March 11, 1839.*—John Brown 2d, H. R. Gillmore and Cephas Carpenter were elected councilmen for three years, and Norman Root, Robert McCabe, and Francis Beardsley, for two years. John Brown, elected mayor, and Dr. C. Bierce, marshal. Norman Root appointed recorder, and P. S. Baker, treasurer.

*March 9, 1840.*—P. S. Baker, John N. Dean, and Cephas Carpenter were elected councilmen; John Brown, mayor, and I. K. Norton, marshal. Norman Root appointed recorder, and A. B. Walker, treasurer.

*March 8, 1841.*—James J. Fuller, E. Cockerill, and Enos Stimson were elected councilmen; John Brown, mayor, and Benjamin Brown, marshal. Enos Stimson appointed recorder, and A. B. Walker, treasurer.

*March 14, 1842.*—Leonidas Jewett, Norman Root, and J. L. Currier were elected councilmen; Norman Root, mayor, and John Sampson, marshal. Enos Stimson appointed recorder, and A. B. Walker, treasurer.

*March 13, 1843.*—John Brown, Ezra Stewart, and Francis Beardsley, were elected councilmen; John Brown, mayor, and Jacob C. McCabe, marshal.

*March 11, 1844.*—John Ballard, Cephas Carpenter, Sumner Bartlett, and Dr. Wm. Blackstone were elected councilmen; John Brown, mayor, and William Smith, marshal. Leonidas Jewett appointed recorder, and Benjamin Brown, treasurer.

Record of 1845, missing.

*March 9, 1846.*—Ezra Stewart, Francis Beardsley, and John Brown elected councilmen for three years; Sumner Bartlett, Wm. R. Smith, and J. W. Bayard for two years; John Brown,

mayor, and Abel Stedman, marshal. J. W. Bayard appointed recorder, and O. W. Brown, treasurer.

*March 8, 1847.*—John Ballard, Dr. Wm. Blackstone, and Cephas Carpenter were elected councilmen; John Brown, mayor, and Abel Stedman, marshal. J. W. Bayard appointed recorder, and O. W. Brown, treasurer.

*March 13, 1848.*—Samuel Miller, Wm. R. Smith, and Joseph Jewett were elected councilmen; Samuel Miller, mayor, and Wm. H. Abbott, marshal. Joseph Jewett appointed recorder, and O. W. Brown, treasurer.

*March 12, 1849.*—John Brown, Andrew Kessinger and Wm. Walker were elected councilmen; John Brown, mayor, and Abel Stedman, marshal. Joseph Jewett appointed recorder, and O. W. Brown, treasurer.

*March 11, 1850.*—Joseph M. Dana, Lot L. Smith, and Samuel Pickering were elected councilmen; Samuel Miller, mayor, and Abel Stedman, marshal. Joseph Jewett appointed recorder, and Leonidas Jewett, treasurer.

*March 10, 1851.*—John Brown, Joseph M. Dana, Andrew Kessinger, E. P. Talpey, and Wm. Walker, councilmen; Samuel Miller, mayor; Joseph Jewett, recorder L; and . Jewett, treasurer.

*March 10, 1852.*—Wm. Walker, Norman Root, John B. Paul, Samuel Miller, J. M. Dana, councilmen; John Brown, mayor; Joseph Jewett, recorder; and L. Jewett, treasurer.

*April 14, 1853.*—John Brown, Samuel Miller, John B. Paul, Joseph Jewett, Wm. Walker, councilmen; Norman Root, mayor; J. M. Dana, recorder; and L. Jewett, treasurer.

*April 15, 1854.*—John Brown, Wm. Walker, H. K. Blackstone, D. M. Clayton, Henry T. Hoyt, councilmen; Norman Root, mayor; J. M. Dana, recorder; L. Jewett, treasurer.

*April, 1855.*—Henry T. Hoyt, Jesse Davis, J. Lawrence Currier, J. C. Frost, N. H. Van Vorhes, councilmen; Norman Root, mayor; J. M. Dana, recorder; L. Jewett, treasurer.

*April, 1856.*—H. K. Blackstone, Wm. P. Kessinger, Oliver

W. Pickering, L. Jewett, E. H. Moore, councilmen ; Norman Root, mayor ; J. M. Dana, recorder ; L. Jewett, treasurer.

*April, 1857.*—Lot L. Smith, H. K. Blackstone, Wm. P. Kessinger, Geo. W. Baker, O. W. Pickering, councilmen ; Norman Root, mayor ; J. M. Dana, recorder ; H. K. Blackstone, treasurer.

*April, 1858.*—Henry T. Hoyt, N. H. Van Vorhes, Lot L. Smith, Hiram R. Crippen, Thomas Davis, councilmen ; N. Root, mayor ; J. M. Dana, recorder ; H. T. Hoyt, treasurer.

*April, 1859.*—H. T. Hoyt, L. L. Smith, Charles H. Grosvenor, Thomas Davis, Hiram R. Crippen, councilmen ; N. Root, mayor ; J. M. Dana, recorder ; H. T. Hoyt, treasurer.

*April, 1860.*—L. Jewett, W. P. Johnson, H. T. Hoyt, Wm. Golden, Rufus P. Crippen, councilmen ; N. Root, mayor ; F. H. Stedman, recorder ; H. T. Hoyt, treasurer.

*April, 1861.*—L. Jewett, W. P. Johnson, H. T. Hoyt, Wm. Golden, H. S. Stimson, councilmen ; N. Root, mayor ; F. H. Stedman, recorder ; H. T. Hoyt, treasurer.

*April, 1862.*—H. T. Hoyt, Wm. Golden, E. H. Moore, Josephus Tucker, E. C. Crippen, councilmen ; N. Root, mayor ; F. H. Stedman, recorder ; H. T. Hoyt, treasurer.

*April, 1863.*—H. T. Hoyt, E. C. Crippen, Josephus Tucker, Charles P. Ballard, Jesse Davis, councilmen ; N. Root, mayor ; F. H. Stedman, recorder ; H. T. Hoyt, treasurer.

*April, 1864.*—Abner Cooley, A. D. Brown, H. K. Blackstone, Josephus Tucker, R. P. Crippen, councilmen ; Joseph M. Dana, mayor ; Simeon W. Pickering, recorder ; A. D. Brown, treasurer.

*April, 1865.*—Jesse Van Law, N. H. Van Vorhes, H. K. Blackstone, Elmer Golden, A. D. Brown, councilmen ; J. M. Dana, mayor ; S. W. Pickering, recorder ; A. D. Brown, treasurer.

*April, 1866.*—A. D. Brown, H. K. Blackstone, J. W. Harris, N. H. Van Vorhes, Jesse Van Law, councilmen ; J. M. Dana, mayor ; S. W. Pickering, recorder ; A. M. Brown, treasurer.

*April, 1867.*—H. K. Blackstone, N. H. Van Vorhes, Jesse Van Law, J. H. Falloon, Wm. P. Johnson, councilmen; Geo. W. Baker, mayor; Frederick L. Ballard, recorder; N. H. Van Vorhes, treasurer.

*April, 1868.*—N. H. Van Vorhes, H. K. Blackstone, C. L. Wilson, H. S. Stimson, Alexander Cochran, councilmen; J. M. Dana, mayor; F. L. Ballard, recorder; N. H. Van Vorhes, treasurer.

*Township Officers in Athens Township.*

The first election for township officers in Athens township was held at the house of John Havner, on the point of the hill, near where Bing's wagon shop now stands, on the first Monday in April, 1806, when the following persons were elected, viz:

Jehiel Gregory, John Lowry, and William Harper, trustees; John Hewitt, Robert Linzee, Joel Abbot, Daniel Mulford, Canada Lowry, and Uriah Tippee, supervisors; John Corey, clerk; Chauncey Perkins, treasurer; Robert Fulton, lister; Alvan Bingham and Abel Mann, overseers of the poor; Robert Lowry, Philip M. Starr, and William Biggerstaff, constables.

At succeeding elections, the following officers were chosen:

*Trustees.*

1807	Leonard Jewett,	Jehiel Gregory,	Silas Bingham.
1808	John Havner,	William Harper,	Aaron Young.
1809	Leonard Jewett,	Ebenezer Currier,	John Abbot.
1810	"	Jacob Lindley,	"
1811	Silas Bingham,	Hopson Beebe,	Joseph B. Miles.
1812	Jehiel Gregory,	Martin Mansfield,	William Harper.
1813	Ebenezer Currier,	Joel Abbot,	Stephen Pilcher.
1814	Robert Linzee,	Wm. Whitesides,	"

TRUSTEES.—*Continued.*

1815	Robert Linzee,	Wm. Harper,	Arthur Coates.
1816	"	"	"
1817	Edmund Dorr,	John White,	David Pratt.
1818	"	"	Abel Mann.
1819	"	"	"
1820	"	"	"
1821	"	"	"
1822	"	"	"
1823	"	"	"
1824	"	"	Silas Bingham.
1825	"	"	Columbus Bierce.
1826	"	"	Josiah Coc.
1827	Solomon Goodspeed,	Reuben J. Davis,	"
1828	"	"	"
1829	"	"	"
1830	"	"	"
1831	"	Frederic Abbot,	"
1832	"	"	Samuel Lowry.
1833	John Mintun,	"	"
1834	"	"	Daniel Stewart.
1835	Josiah Coc,	Edmund Dorr,	"
1836	John Brown,	Solomon Goodspeed,	Samuel B. Pruden.
1837	Justus Reynolds,	John White, jr.,	Ebenezer Currier.
1838	"	John Brown,	"
1839	Edmund Dorr,	"	Daniel Stewart.
1840	Robert McCabe,	"	Christopher Sheldon.
1841	"	"	"
1842	Amos Crippen,	Norman Root,	"
1843	John R. McCune,	Justus Reynolds,	"
1844	"	"	"
1845	John Ballard,	Henry Hay,	Wm. T. Dean.
1846	"	"	"
1847	George Connett,	"	Nathan Goodspeed.
1848	"	Andrew Kessinger,	J. R. McCune.
1849	"	John Brown,	"
1850	Leonidas Jewett,	"	Joseph Morrison.
1851	Oliver W. Pickering,	"	"
1852	"	"	"
1853	"	James W. Bayard,	"
1854	Peter W. Boyles,	Richard Dobson.	"
1855	"	"	L. R. Jarvis.
1856	Thomas Davis,	"	Thomas Laughlin.
1857	"	Charles Goodspeed,	"
1858	"	"	Richard Dobson.
1859	"	"	Thomas Laughlin.
1860	"	Ezra Goodspeed,	"
1861	C. R. Sheldon,	"	"
1862	"	"	Alfred Morrison.
1863	"	Jesse Davis,	Jefferson Reynolds.
1864	"	"	A. J. Reynolds.
1865	Ezra Goodspeed,	B. F. Finney,	"
1866	"	"	"
1867	"	"	"
1868	"	Parker Carpenter,	"

*Township Treasurers and Clerks since 1807.*

	Treasurers.	Clerks.
1807	Chauncey Perkins,	John Corey.
1808	Alexander Stedman,	"
1809	"	"
1810	"	"
1811	"	"
1812	"	"
1813	Eliphaz Perkins,	Nehemiah Gregory.
1814	William Weir,	Alexander Proudfit.
1815	Charles Shipman,	Alvan Bingham.
1816	"	James Gillmore.
1817	Ebenezer Blackstone,	"
1818	John Gillmore,	"
1819	"	"
1820	"	"
1821	"	"
1822	"	"
1823	"	"
1824	James Gillmore,	John Gillmore.
1825	"	"
1826	"	"
1827	"	"
1828	"	"
1829	Charles Shipman,	"
1830	Allan V. Medbury,	"
1831	"	David Pratt.
1832	"	"
1833	Isaac Barker,	Robert E. Constable.
1834	"	A. B. Walker.
1835	A. G. Brown,	"
1836	"	N. B. Purington.
1837	Elias Hibbard,	D. W. Cunningham.
1838	Joseph H. Moore,	"
1839	"	"
1840	"	"
1841	"	"
1842	"	"
1843	"	David M. Clayton.
1844	"	"
1845	E. H. Moore,	"
1846	Samuel Pickering,	Wm. Loring Brown.
1847	"	Wm. H. Bartlett.
1848	Lot L. Smith,	"
1849	Joseph L. Kessinger,	"
1850	"	H. K. Blackstone.
1851	"	Daniel S. Dana.
1852	John B. Paul,	"
1853	"	Samuel S. Knowles.
1854	"	Daniel S. Dana.



TOWNSHIP TREASURERS AND CLERKS.—*Continued.*

	Treasurers.	Clerks.
1855	Wm. P. Kessinger,	Daniel S. Dana.
1856	"	George H. Stewart.
1857	"	"
1858	"	"
1859	Elias Tedrow,	"
1860	"	"
	Elias Tedrow resigned in December, 1860, and A. D. Brown appointed.	
1861	A. D. Brown,	Norman Root.
1862	"	"
1863	"	"
1864	"	"
1865	"	"
1866	"	"
1867	E. H. Moore,	"
1868	"	C. R. Sheldon.

*Justices of the Peace.*

- 1814—John L. Lewis, Abel Miller, Henry Bartlett.  
 1817—Henry Bartlett, Stephen Pilcher.  
 1829—Reuben J. Davis, A. G. Brown.  
 1835—A. G. Brown.  
 1836—Henry Bartlett.  
 1838—Abram Van Vorhes.  
 1842—Henry Bartlett.  
 1844—Norman Root.  
 1847—A. G. Brown.  
 1848—Sumner Bartlett.  
 1850—H. K. Blackstone, Enoch Cabeen.  
 1851—Daniel S. Dana.  
 1852—Norman Root.  
 1853—Daniel S. Dana, Jacob T. Stanley.  
 1855—Oscar W. Brown.  
 1856—Norman Root, Deloro Culley.  
 1858—William Golden, Wm. Loring Brown.  
 1859—Norman Root.  
 1861—William Golden, Wm. Loring Brown.  
 1862—Norman Root.

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*JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.—Continued.*

1864—C. R. Sheldon, Wm. A. Thomas, Wm. L. Brown.

1865—Norman Root.

1867—G. W. Baker, O. W. Brown, H. C. Martin.

1868—W. A. Thomas.

*Schools.*

The first school established in Athens was in 1801, and was taught by John Goldthwaite. The school house (a log one) was situated on Joseph Higgins's place, about three miles south of Athens. Henry Bartlett taught in this house several quarters, between 1802 and 1806. Michael Higgins, now seventy-four years old, attended Esquire Bartlett's school, and relates that, on one occasion, when the scholars undertook, according to a custom then prevalent, to bar the master out, on a certain day, and had made all very fast, Mr. Bartlett procured a roll of brimstone from the nearest house, climbed to the top of the school house, and dropped the brimstone down the open chimney into the fire; then placing something over the chimney, he soon smoked the boys into an unconditional surrender.

The first school house on the town plat was a small brick building, which stood about where Grosvenor & Dana's law office now is—just east of the Presbyterian church. This has long since disappeared. It was built about 1806 or '7. Capt. David Pratt taught here for several years. Some of the best remembered among

his successors are Mrs. Sarah Foster ("Grandma Foster"), Miss Sallie Jewett, the Rev. James McAboy, the Rev. Mr. McDill, Mrs. Burton, Prof. Andrews, L. D. Shepherd, Mr. Sears, Mr. Blake, the Rev. Joseph Marvin, the Rev. Charles Townsend, Samuel Marsh, Miss Haft, and James D. Johnson. About twelve years ago, the union school system, so successful every where, was adopted in Athens, since when the public school has taken a respectable rank. About eight thousand dollars was raised by taxation, and a convenient and spacious school building erected. The site is a commanding one; the building, of brick, is sixty-five feet front by seventy-one deep, and three stories in height; the first and second stories each thirteen feet high, and the third story eighteen feet. The ground and second floor are each divided into four class rooms, two twenty-two by twenty-eight feet, and two twenty-seven by twenty-eight feet, and the third floor furnishes a hall sixty-two by fifty-six feet. Mr. L. R. Jarvis superintended the stone work, Mr. J. B. Paul, the brick work, and Mr. William Shaffer, the wood work. Mr. Cyrus Grant was the first superintendent of this school, and was succeeded by Mr. J. K. Mower, and Miss Eunice Rice. The Rev. Mr. Travis followed, then Mr. Doan, the Rev. John Pratt, the Rev. W. H. Scott, Captain Charles Barker, and Mr. Goodspeed, the present superintendent. The institution is well sustained and growing in usefulness.

*The Methodist Church.*

The establishment of the Methodist church, here, antedates that of any other religious society. Three quarters of a century ago, this denomination had already developed that spirit of energy and religious enterprise, which has not only made it the pioneer church, and forerunner of other denominations, but has caused it to become the most powerful church organization in America. We have quoted elsewhere, from the Rev. Mr. Quinn, an account of a missionary tour, which he made up the Hockhocking valley in 1800, when he preached at Athens. The Methodists have had a society here from that time, and during the early as well as later years of their church history here, have numbered among their preachers some very able, earnest, and useful men. In 1805, the Rev. Jacob Young preached on this circuit. The Rev. Geo. C. Light preached here about the same time. In 1806, Peter Cartwright, who afterward became celebrated in the church, visited Athens and Alexander townships, preaching and forming societies. About 1815, the Rev. Thomas Morris (now Bishop Morris), was on this circuit, and preached statedly at Athens. Among the early Methodist preachers here were the Rev. Cornelius Springer, the Rev. Daniel Limerick, the Rev. Curtis Goddard, the Rev. Abraham Lippett, the Rev.

John Ferree, the Rev. Abraham Baker, the Rev. Henry S. Fernandez, the Rev. Absalom Fox, the Rev. Asa Stroud, and the Rev. Robert O. Spencer—some of them being on the Muskingum and some on the Athens circuit.

During the early years of this century, the Methodists held their meetings at different houses, but in 1812 or '13, they built a brick church on the lot now owned and occupied by Prof. W. H. Young, and in 1825, they erected a brick parsonage adjoining. The church building, having been used as such nearly thirty years, fell into decay, and was then used for some years as a foundery; it has now disappeared. The parsonage forms a part of Prof. Young's present house. The present Methodist church was built in 1837. It is to be regretted that a continuous sketch of the Methodist society at Athens can not be furnished; its early establishment and long career of usefulness entitle it to a more extended history than we are able to offer.

#### *The Presbyterian Church.*

The First Presbyterian Society of Athens was organized in the autumn of 1809 by the Rev. Jacob Lindley. The original members of the organization were but nine in number, viz: Joshua Wyatt and wife, Josiah Coe, Arthur Coates, Dr. Eliphaz Perkins, Alvan Bingham, Mrs. Sally Foster and the Rev. Jacob

Lindley and wife. Public service was held for a time in the little brick school house which stood just east of the present site of the Presbyterian church, and afterward in the court house until the year 1828, when the present brick church was built. In 1815, the church numbered forty-seven members, and a revival that year added forty-three. In the year 1820, there were fifty-six added to the church, and the whole number of church members at that time was 177.

In 1827, steps were taken for the full organization and incorporation of the society. The following document, though incomplete and without date, possesses some interest as illustrating one step in the history of the church. The original paper, in the hand-writing of Joseph B. Miles, is yellow, time-worn, and mutilated—the last page with the signatures being lost.

#### “ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

“We, the undersigned, taking into consideration the great importance of religious and moral instruction, and believing that the regular and stated preaching of the gospel is necessary for the promotion of these virtues; and as it is ordained of God that they who preach the gospel, shall live by the gospel, and ‘the laborer is worthy of his hire,’ and in order to obtain the same, we who receive spiritual food ought to contribute of our earthly substance, as God shall enable us, to those who dispense to us the bread of life, and in order the more effectually to promote these objects, do enter into the following articles of association.

## I.

This society shall be known by the name of the First Presbyterian Society of Athens.

## II.

There shall be a meeting of this society on the first Monday of May, annually, for the purpose of electing the officers of the society, amending or adding to the articles of association and doing such other business as may be necessary for the society to transact.

## III.

The officers of this society, shall consist of three trustees, a clerk, and collector, who shall also be treasurer, to hold their offices for one year, and until others are chosen in their places, to be chosen by a majority of voters present.

## IV.

It shall be the duty of the trustees to hire preaching, either by the week, month, or year, as they may think best, to be paid in the kind, and to the amount of subscriptions, to settle with the persons employed; also, to solicit subscriptions, receive donations or contributions, for the purposes of defraying the expenses of preaching, and to give public notice of the annual meetings of the society. Said trustees shall meet on their own adjournment, from time to time, as they may think best for the benefit of the society.

## V.

It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a fair record of the doings of the society, and a fair list of the subscribers' names, with the amount subscribed, and the time of subscribing, and to make out a list of subscriptions to the collector.

#### VI.

It shall be the duty of the collector to collect and receive all moneys or other property due the society by subscription or otherwise, and to pay out the same by order of the trustees, which order shall be signed by the chairman of the trustees.

#### VII.

No person shall have a vote to control the funds of this society after it is organized, unless they shall subscribe something towards the support of preaching, and no member shall be eligible to office until after he shall have subscribed.

#### VIII.

On the death, removal, or resignation of any of the officers of the society, it shall be the duty of the trustees to appoint a person or persons to fill the place, until the next annual election.

#### IX.

It shall be in the power of any three subscribers to call a meeting of the society at any time when they may think necessary by giving written notice in three public places in the town of Athens, setting forth the objects of said meeting, and having it proclaimed on the Sabbath before said meeting in the congregation.

#### X.

Should the funds of the society be deemed sufficient at any time to settle a regular preacher of the gospel, by themselves, or with the joint subscriptions of the adjoining settlements, and the society should deem it necessary, it shall be the duty of the trustees in such case, to invite preachers as candidates, but no preacher shall be regularly settled without the consent of two-



thirds of the members present at a meeting of the society for the purpose of giving a call.

XI.

The society shall have power to dismiss any officer of the society for misconduct, by a vote of a majority of the members present, at a meeting of the society.

XII.

Owing to the scarcity of money, any of the kinds of country produce are to be received in payment of subscriptions, named in the thirteenth article of this association, the prices of such articles to be fixed by the trustees of the society, on or before the first of November, annually, and any payment made by the subscribers to the person employed to preach, and his receipt produced to the collector, shall be a sufficient voucher for the amount on his subscription.

XIII.

All subscriptions shall be specified in dollars and cents, and we do hereby agree to pay the several amounts annexed to our names for the above purpose, in cash, or wheat, flour, rye, oats, corn, beef, pork, flax, wool, or country linen, at the prices affixed."

Though among the earliest religious societies organized in the state, this church was not incorporated till 1828. The act, passed February 7th of that year, names as the incorporators, Columbus Bierce, Isaac Taylor, Joseph B. Miles, Charles Shipman, Francis Beardsley, Samuel Miller, Eben Foster, John Perkins, Hull Foster, John Gillmore, and Cephas Carpenter, and Messrs. Miles, Bierce, Taylor, Beardsley, and

Carpenter, were constituted trustees of the church, to act as such till the first annual meeting. The Rev. Jacob Lindley acted as moderator of the session and pastor until about 1828, since when, fifteen ministers have served the church either as stated supply or as pastors, among whom will be recognized the names of some very devout and able men. The entire list in the order of time is as follows:

Rev. Jacob Lindley, contemporary ; Rev. Samuel Davies Hoge, contemporary ; Rev. Robert G. Wilson, Rev. John Spaulding (now of New York city), Rev. William Burton, Rev. Timothy Stearns, Rev. N. B. Purington, Rev. Wm. H. McGuffey, Rev. Wells Andrews, Rev. Aaron Williams, Rev. Moses A. Hoge, Rev. Addison Ballard, Rev. Alfred Ryors, Rev. S. Dieffendorf, Rev. John H. Pratt, Rev. James F. Holcomb.

The Rev. John H. Pratt began his labors here in 1854, laboring one year as "stated supply," after which he received a call as pastor. During the period of his pastorate (fourteen years), two hundred members were added to the church. The deaths and removals of members during the same period were, however, numerous—the latter especially so—so that the present active membership is only about one hundred and twenty-five. During the past few years the church has been rebuilt, and a lecture-room added. The old-fashioned, lofty pulpit (looking up toward which, twenty-five years ago, little children of the writer's age, used to strain their necks till they ached), has given place to a modern plat-

form. In those days, the pulpit being at the front end of the church, the congregation faced about on taking their seats. Thus, facing toward the preacher and the pulpit, they looked also toward the front doors, out of which, as they stood open in fine summer weather, the juveniles could gaze longingly and hear the lowing of the cattle, and watch the entrance of the sabbath-breaking bees, "forever going and coming;" or curiously speculate about the wicked, solitary horseback traveler who, with dusty portmanteau, pursuing his journey through the village, just then passed the church. But "*tempora mutantur et nos mutamur cum illis.*" The times are changed, and we with them. The old pastors are gone; the gray heads of twenty-five years ago have many of them been laid in their last sleep, and the active men of the church then, are the gray heads now. The little boys, whose will then was "the wind's will," and whose thoughts were "long, long thoughts," are in turn, become the active men of the present day. It is *their* children now who are looking at the green hills, listening to the humming bees and thinking strange, mysterious thoughts. Happy children if their childhood be as serene as their fathers' was—if their sabbaths be as quiet and their surroundings as healthful as were those of the old village church.

*Cemeteries.*

For considerably more than half a century after Athens was settled, the dead were buried in the old grave yard northwest of town, which was set apart for that use by the trustees of the university in 1806. The place never was ornamented to any extent, and for many years past only a few forest trees have given it their grateful shade. Here, a little apart from their surviving friends, rest the fathers of the village.

“The breezy call of incense-breathing morn,  
The swallow twittering from the straw-built shed,  
The cock’s shrill clarion or the echoing horn  
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.”

In January, 1864, the citizens of Athens feeling the need of a more beautiful burying ground, organized the Athens Cemetery Association, with a capital stock of \$4,000, divided into shares of \$100, which was incorporated under a general law of the state. An eligible site was selected west of the town, and a purchase made of twelve acres, which has since been tastefully laid off into winding walks and drives, and handsomely ornamented with shrubbery. Some appropriate and costly monuments already adorn the new cemetery, which is a place of pleasant resort for the residents of Athens, and is a credit to the town. The organization is officered as follows: Calvary Morris, president, H. J. Topky, secretary, A. B. Walker,

treasurer, and Calvary Morris, J. W. Harris, J. H. Pratt, W. P. Johnson, and Jesse Van Law, trustees.

The citizens of Alexander township have recently begun a similar improvement by the addition of several acres to their former burying ground at the Cumberland Presbyterian church, near Hebbardsville. The addition is neatly laid off into lots with avenues and walks, and ornamented with shrubbery. It is to be hoped these examples will be followed by other towns and townships in the county. The appropriate burial of the dead and proper care for their resting place by the living, is a mark of christian civilization, and the universal attention now given to the subject in this country, indicates a pleasing change in public sentiment. Beautiful cemeteries are scattered over the country, some of them very celebrated, and soon no enterprising town will be without one. Lucretius says of the earth—

*"Omniparens, eadem rerum est commune sepulchrum."*

The parent of all, she is also the common sepulchre. Let our burial places, therefore, be beautified with the "greenery of nature," and let the adornments of art be added to please the senses and soothe the feelings of the living.

*Newspapers.*

The first newspaper published in Athens, was *The Athens Mirror and Literary Register*, commenced in

1825, by A. G. Brown. The *Mirror* was political and literary in its character, printed once a week on paper of super-royal size (sixteen pages about nine by five inches to each number), and continued through five years. It was printed on a wooden press with a stone bed, and required four *pulls* to each sheet.

Several copies of the old *Mirror*, running from January to May, 1829, are before us, and furnish some interesting bits of local history. Each number contains the advertisements of Joseph B. Miles, Ebenezer Currier, and Thomas Brice, offering their "complete and extensive assortments of goods for sale low for cash, or in exchange for wheat, rye, corn, pork, butter, feathers, rags, calf and deer skins, fur skins, buck horns, ginseng, bees wax, etc."

In February, 1829, the publisher announces that "all who wish to see a fifth volume of the *Mirror* published, are desired to send in their names before the 1st day of May, next;" and earnestly solicits increased patronage. In the issue of February 21, 1829, the editor apologizes for being delayed beyond the usual time for publication, by stating that "a young man in our employ unluckily received a severe hurt while skating on the ice." Probably that young man was John Brough, afterwards governor of Ohio, etc., who was then employed in the office.

About this time the temperance question was considerably discussed in the town. A sermon delivered on

the subject, January 22, 1829, by the Rev. Robt. G. Wilson, is published in full in the *Mirror*. A society was formed, of which Dr. Wilson was president, the Rev. John Spaulding vice president, and Professor Joseph Dana secretary, and a pledge was kept at the *Mirror* office for signatures. The constitution of the society, printed in the *Mirror*, is accompanied by the following note: "It is understood that merchants and others having contracts or quantities of spirits now on hand, shall have reasonable time to close and dispose of the same on becoming members." The movement was pushed with great earnestness and success by the good men who inaugurated it, and doubtless there was sufficient need of reform. Some of the seed sown fell on good ground in Ames township, and blossomed forth into the following unique advertisement, which appeared in the *Mirror* of April 25, 1829:

"A CHALLENGE.

"ATTENTION GROG DRINKERS!!

"SAMUEL L. MOHLER, of Ames township, having been for sixteen years in the constant habit of *drinking*, and getting drunk on an average, as often as once a month, has resolved to refrain entirely from the practice in future; and as a test of his sincerity, he offers to pledge the new wood work to a good wagon, against any property of equal value, that he will refrain from drinking ardent spirits longer than any other man who has been in the habit, an equal, or half the length of time;

provided both live to make the trial. Any person disposed to take him up can give notice to that effect.

"April 10, 1829."

We are not able to state whether this interesting challenge was ever accepted or not; perhaps Mr. Mohler's virtuous resolve went toward improving that nameless place which is said to be "paved with good intentions;" we can not tell.

A committee consisting of Thomas Brice, John Gilmore, Amos Crippen, and Norman Root, appointed to settle the accounts of the town of Athens for the year ending February 18, 1829, publish an itemized report, showing the total receipts to have been one hundred and seventy-three dollars and twenty-three cents, and total expenditures one hundred and twelve dollars and ninety-four cents.

The *Mirror* was succeeded in 1830 by *The Western Spectator*, edited and published by Isaac Maxon, who came from Marietta in 1825, bringing young John Brough as a type-setter. The paper continued under Mr. Maxon's management for six years. In 1836 it was bought by Mr. Abram Van Vorhes, who changed the name to the *Hocking Valley Gazette and Athens Messenger*. Under this name Mr. Van Vorhes edited and published the paper for several years, enlarging it to imperial size, printing it with new press and type, and otherwise greatly improving it.

In January, 1844, the *Gazette* was succeeded by the *Athens Messenger*, edited and published for a time



by Mr. Nelson H. Van Vorhes, and afterward by him and his brother, Mr. A. J. Van Vorhes. In the spring of 1854, N. H. Van Vorhes retired from the paper, which continued in the hands of his brother until October 1, 1855, when the establishment was purchased by the late Mr. George Walsh, who only retained control one year, when it was once more sold to N. H. Van Vorhes.

Mr. Van Vorhes edited and published the paper till January, 1861; Mr. T. F. Wildes, from January, 1861, till September, 1862; Mr. Jesse Van Law, from September, 1862, till November, 1865; Mr. J. W. Stinchcomb, from November, 1865, till November, 1866; Mr. J. R. S. Bond, from November, 1866, till March, 1868, and Mr. C. E. M. Jennings, from that till the present time.

#### *The Court House.*

For about a year and a half after the organization of the county, the court was held in a room, rented for that purpose, of Leonard Jewett and Silas Bingham. In 1807-8, a hewed log court house was erected, very near the spot where the present one stands, in which the courts were held for about ten years. This temple of justice must have been a pretty substantial structure, if its *chimney*, described in the following extract from the records of the county commissioners may be taken as a "specimen brick:"

"September 7, 1807. The commissioners proceeded to adopt the following plan for a chimney in the court house in the town of Athens, to wit: The foundation to be laid with stone, one foot below the surface, the remainder to be of brick, to be well laid in good lime mortar; one fire place below and two above—the fire place below to be four feet clear in the back, twenty-two inches deep, and five feet four inches wide in front, to be secured by a bar of iron the size of a common flat bar, and secured with a sufficient bolt let into the discharging piece—the bolt to be secured by a fore lock and key, the bolt about one foot and five or six inches in length, and the discharging piece six inches thick. The fire places above to be each eighteen inches back, and built proportionably with the rest of the chimney, which is to be raised three feet above the top of the building; the upper fire places to be well coated, and the whole to be completed, including the hearths, in a workmanlike manner, on or before the 20th day of November next; which (contract) being put up at public sale, was struck off at seventy-eight dollars."

The resources of the settlement being very limited, this same building was used also for a school house, and meeting house. In the records of the county commissioners we find the following entry:

"December 7, 1811.—*Resolved*, by the commissioners, that from and after this date, the court house in the town of Athens shall not be used as a school house or a meeting house, unless the inhabitants of said town shall agree to furnish, for the use of the court, during the time of its session, a sufficient quantity of fire wood, ready cut, fit for the fire; also to keep the house in as good repair as it now is, and keep the same well swept during the sitting of the court; and that the clerk notify the inhabitants as aforesaid, by advertisement posted on the court house door."

Perhaps the school teacher was careless about shutting the door at night, and probably school boys, in those days, like other boys before and since, were not scrupulous about keeping the floor clean; for the next entry on the subject is as follows:

"June 2, 1812.—The board appointed Ebenezer Currier a committee to see, on condition the court house is used as a school house, that the door of said house be kept shut whenever the house is not occupied, every night, and that it be kept clean; also, that a sufficient quantity of fire wood be constantly kept for the court and commissioners, and that the house be left in as good repair as when entered upon."

And, finally, on this head, it was ordered, December 8, 1813:

"That the court house shall be no longer used as a school house, and that Henry Bartlett be a committee to take care of the same, and have said house repaired by the 1st of January next."

"June 8, 1814, it was *Ordered*, that the north and east sides of lots Nos. 35 and 37, on which the court house and jail now stand, be fenced with good, sawed, white oak palings, of five feet in length, the posts to be of black locust, four by five inches square, and six and a half feet long, the rails of good white oak, and the panels ten feet long, with a small gate before the present court house door, and a gate of ten feet wide near the north east corner, fronting the east."

Caleb Merrit and Joseph B. Miles were appointed a committee to carry the above resolution into effect.

The old hewed log court house was the one in use

while Thomas Ewing was attending college at Athens, and he was, doubtless, a frequent visitor here. Here he probably gained his first familiarity with judicial proceedings, and acquired his earliest knowledge of the workings of the law. The practitioners at the Athens bar of that day, if they noticed an unsophisticated youth, on a back seat, intently listening to their professional efforts, little imagined that that youth would live to become one of the greatest expounders of the law our country has yet produced, and to ornament some of the highest positions in the land.

Proposals for a new court house (the one now in use) must have been published in the spring or early summer of 1814, for in the proceedings of the meeting of the county commissioners, held August 1, of that year, present, Asahel Cooley, Caleb Merritt, and Robert Linzee, it is entered:

“Proceeded to sell, to the lowest bidder, certain articles, agreeable to advertisement, to be furnished for the erecting of a court house, viz: to Ebenezer Currier, twelve hundred feet of black walnut boards, one and one-fourth inches thick; one hundred feet of poplar boards, one and one-half inches thick, and five hundred feet, ditto, one and one-fourth inches thick—to be delivered on the court house lot, piled up properly for drying, and to be delivered on or before the 1st day of January next. To Edmund Dorr, twenty perch of rough stone, for the foundation—to be laid, according to advertisement, before the 15th day of November next.”

The following entries, copied from the old records of the county commissioners, mark the progress and history of the present court house:

"November 16, 1814.—*Ordered*, that the wall for the foundation of the court house be six inches thicker than described heretofore, and that the same be laid in mortar of lime and coarse sand, and that such further compensation be allowed to Edmund Dorr, contractor for the same, as masons shall adjudge."

"December 5, 1814.—County of Athens, to Joseph B. Miles, Dr.,

To 1,925 feet of boards and scantling,	-	\$19	25
Hauling same from mill,	-	3	00
Drawing plan of court house,	-	1	00

"December 6, 1814.—*Ordered*, that the clerk notify, by advertisement, set up in three public places in Athens, the furnishing of three ranges of cut stone, two feet wide and nine inches thick, to be well laid in lime mortar; also the furnishing of one hundred thousand good merchantable brick, to be delivered on the court house lot by the 1st day of August next. Proposals will be received by the commissioners, in writing, at their meeting, on the second Monday in January next."

"February 1, 1815.—The commissioners met for the purpose of consulting as to the practicability of proceeding in building the court house."

It was decided to proceed, and at their meeting, March 7th, the clerk was directed to

"Advertise in the *American Friend*, for furnishing brick and stone in amounts as aforesaid; proposals to be received by the

commissioners, at the court house, on the second Monday of April next, from 10 A. M., to 4 P. M., on said day."

"*April 10, 1815.*—The commissioners met for the purpose of contracting for the furnishing of cut stone for the court house; also of one hundred thousand brick for the same. After having received the proposals of Elijah Hatch, Esq., and Edmund Dorr, for furnishing brick, and of William Dorr, William Alcock, and Jonathan Amlin, for furnishing and laying cut and hewed stone," the board adjourned till next day.

"*Tuesday, April 11.*—Proceeded to receive bonds of William Alcock and Jonathan Amlin for the stone work, and agreed with them for the sum of three hundred dollars, payable October 1st, next. Proceeded also to take bonds from Edmund Dorr, for the furnishing of one hundred thousand brick for the court house; amount of said contract, six hundred dollars, in county orders, on the completion of the contract."

June 7, 1815, the clerk was directed to advertise for materials, and making doors and window frames; also for sleepers, joists, and rafters, and for framing timber for floor, laying the brick, etc.

"*July 17, 1815.*—The commissioners proceeded to contract as follows: with John Havner, for laying up the brick walls of court house, five hundred dollars; with Abel Stedman, furnishing timber, framing cupola, etc., two hundred and seventy-four dollars; and with Elijah Hatch, for shingles, sixty-seven dollars."

"*September 5, 1815.*—Agreed with John Porter, he being the lowest bidder, for the following jobs of work, viz: putting a cornice round the court house, at fifty cents per foot; also boarding the roof of the same, for the sum of twelve dollars; and shingling the same at the rate of one dollar and twenty-five cents per thousand, and at one dollar for each hip."

"September 6, 1815.—The board appointed James Gillmore superintendent, to oversee and superintend the building of the court house, and to call on Charles Shipman and J. B. Miles to assist him at any time when required."

"September 26.—Resolved by the board, that the sum of four hundred dollars be borrowed from the Bank of Marietta, for the purpose of paying for the stone work on the court house, including window sills, etc., and for the purpose of purchasing nails; and that an order issue for the said amount, payable to Asahel Cooley, and that the same be sent by William Skinner, and deposited in the Bank of Marietta, for the purpose of obtaining the sum aforesaid."

"September 27.—Busy in making arrangements for the building of the court house, and making proposals to the trustees of the Ohio university for the loan of one thousand dollars."

"Thursday, 28.—Agreed with the trustees of the Ohio university, for a loan of one thousand dollars, for one year, at six per cent. interest."

"Friday, 29.—Resolved, That Robert Linzee and James Gillmore be a committee to examine the mason work of the court house, when finished, and receive the same, and also to ascertain the number of brick in said building."

The laying of the brick was finished in October, 1815, and John Havner received his pay in full, viz: \$500, as per contract.

"Wednesday, December 6, 1815.—Resolved, by the commissioners of the county of Athens, That, in consideration of a subscription by sundry individuals, viz: Josiah Coe, Cephas Carpenter, Mary Ann Ackley, Lydia Ackley, James Gillmore, Jacob Dumbaugh, John Johnstone, Enos Thompson, David Pratt, Daniel Stewart, Joseph B. Miles, Henry Bartlett, Robert Linzee, Charles Shipman, Ebenezer Currier, Eliphaz Perkins, Chauncey F. Perkins, Alvan Bingham, Amos Crippen, John

Porter, James J. Fuller, James Session, Silas Bingham, John White, Abel Stedman, Eliphaz Perkins, jun., S. S. Johnstone, John Havner, Thomas Armstrong, Seth Child, Asahel Cooley, Thomas McClelland, and Arthur Coates, amounting to \$506, to be paid into the county treasury to assist in building the court house in said county, and this day presented by a committee appointed for that purpose by the subscribers; the commissioners do agree that the subscribers and their associates have the privilege of holding meetings for religious purposes, on the Sabbath and other days, for eight years from the first day of January, 1816, when it shall not interfere with the county business, upon condition that \$500 of the above-named subscription be paid to Henry Bartlett on or before the first day of March next; and that each subscriber, on his paying the sum subscribed by him, shall receive a receipt for the same, to be refunded in eight years, without interest; and *provided* further, that if the said sum of \$500 is not paid in by the time specified, then it shall be optional with the commissioners to refund the money or continue the privilege, and if they should not continue the privilege, then the money is to be refunded. And it is also understood that the aforesaid sum of \$500 be appropriated for finishing the lower room of the court house, if the whole of said sum be necessary. The following form of receipt shall be given by Henry Bartlett, clerk of the commissioners, for the purposes aforesaid: 'Received of A. B. the sum of —, which is to be refunded to the said A. B., or his heirs or assigns, at the end of eight years from the first day of January, 1816, out of the county treasury, without interest.'

"*January 6, 1816.*—It is agreed by the commissioners and Joseph B. Miles, that the said Miles furnish the glass and oil for the court house, and that, after deducting the amount of said Miles's subscription from the articles, the balance be paid him, on delivery thereof.

*Same day.*—"Agreed with John Walker for making the sash for the lower and upper rooms of the court house, priming the same, and setting the glass, and fitting the sash in the frames, at



ten cents per light—materials to be furnished by the commissioners. Also, agreed with John Walker for laying the lower floor, at \$4 50 per square. The above contracts to be completed by May 1, 1816.

“Agreed with John Porter for finishing the upper part of the cupola, from the cornice up (including cornice), putting up rafters, boarding and shingling roof, putting on timber, with a ball agreeable to a plan this day exhibited, to be completed by May 1st, 1817. Also agreed with John Porter, finishing and building the stairs for the sum of \$60; the banisters to be mortised into the hand-rails and string board, and completed in a workmanlike manner.

[Time for completing the above contracts extended to the 1st day of September.]”

\* \* \* \* \*

*Same date.*—“WHEREAS, Robert Linzee and Asahel Cooley, have loaned of the corporation of the Ohio university, the sum of \$1,000 for the use and benefit of the county of Athens, in building the court house; therefore, be it *resolved*, that so much of the tax of this present year be appropriated for the benefit of said Linzee and Cooley, as will satisfy said sum and interest.”

*Same date.*—“*Resolved*, That James Gillmore and Henry Bartlett, be a committee to receive bonds of the several contractors on the court house, and that the said Gillmore and Bartlett, be a committee to dispose of the \$1,000 borrowed by Asahel Cooley and Robert Linzee, for the use and benefit of Athens county, which sum said committee are directed to apportion among the different contractors who have heretofore filled their contracts on said building in proportion to their claims, after deducting therefrom six per cent.”

“*June 13, 1816.*—Agreed with John Walker, for completing the following jobs or parcels of work: finishing the judges’ seats in the court house agreeably to the plan, twenty panels in front, with bed moulding and capping for a cornice; five panels on each side of the bar, nine in front; two sheriffs’ boxes;

two tables for the bar, and clerk's seat, agreeably to the plan; after finishing thereof, the same to be adjudged by Messrs. Corp and Shipman, and the price determined by them; also agreed with same for making, finishing, and hanging the three outside doors of the court house, and casing the jambs."

"*June 25, 1817.—Resolved,* That the superintending committee be authorized to employ John Bowman to paint the roof, cupola, etc., of the court house."

The foregoing extracts from the old county records include nearly every entry relating to the court house, and quite fully present the history of its erection. The building was about completed during the autumn of 1817, and has been in continuous use ever since. It has undergone changes and repairs both inside and outside, but much of the original work still remains—an evidence of the honesty and fidelity with which the mechanics of those days labored. It is an antiquated and most unornamental building, and must ere long give way to a finer structure; but, perhaps, the walls of its successor will never echo the voices of greater men or better lawyers than have plead within the old court house.

The first resident lawyer in Athens was Artemus Sawyer, a young man of high literary and scholastic attainments, who arrived in 1808. In 1810, he was appointed prosecuting attorney, and acted as such for a few years, until he fell an early victim to habits of intemperance. E. B. Merwin, of Lancaster, acted as prosecutor before Sawyer, and was one of the

principal practitioners of this period at the Athens court. Gen. Philemon Beecher, and Wm. W. Irwin, of Lancaster, were also regular attendants. William Woodbridge, of Marietta, practiced here until his removal to Michigan, where he became governor, senator, etc. The Hon. Thomas Ewing attended the courts in Athens county very constantly for several years, after his admission to the bar, as did also the late Samuel F. Vinton, who took up his residence in Gallipolis about 1817. Mr. Vinton represented this district in Congress for twenty-two years. Gen. Goddard, of Zanesville, also practiced here for several years, commencing about 1818. The Hon. Henry Stanbery came in a little later, but practiced for several years in the Athens courts, and his maiden speech was delivered in the present court house.\* Messrs. Hocking H. Hunter, Brazee, and Nash must also be added to the great lawyers who practiced here. Gen. Dwight Jarvis, who resided and practiced here about five years,

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\* Mr. Stanbery, in response to an inquiry addressed to him by the writer, touching the correctness of the tradition that his "maiden speech" was delivered here, replied:

"The 'tradition' is correct. I was admitted to the bar at Gallipolis, in May, 1824, and made my first jury speech at Athens in the following June. The case was of a character (in bastardy) and the evidence so broad as not to admit of publication. It involved some nice questions as to the period of gestation, etc., with which, of course, I was not at all familiar; so that I can very truly say that this was my 'first great cause least understood.' I did, however, succeed in making one point which had a telling effect on the jury. The defense was mainly placed on an attempt to impeach the veracity of the mother of the children (for they were twins); I appeared for the mother, and she was the only witness to fix the paternity of the boys on the defendant.

from 1825 to 1830, was the second *resident* lawyer, not reckoning Joseph Dana, then a professor in the university, who though never fairly engaged in the practice, attended to a few cases, at intervals, when not occupied with teaching. At a somewhat later period, the late Judge Arius Nye, of Marietta, was among the most constant and faithful attendants, from abroad, at the Athens bar. Since about 1832, there has been no lack of resident lawyers (some of them of marked ability), and the attendance from abroad has been less frequent; in fact, of late years, non-resident lawyers are seldom seen here. The resident lawyers at the present time are Messrs. Grosvenor & Dana, Messrs. de Steiguer & Jewett, Messrs. Browns & Wildes, Messrs. Golden & Townsend, and Robert E. Constable.

*Grand Juries from 1805 to 1815.*

The first grand jury that ever sat in the county, was drawn in November, 1805, and was composed as follows:

John Dixon, John Hewitt, Samuel Moore, John Corey, Peter Boyles, Jeremiah Riggs, Canaday Lowry, William How-

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I argued to the jury that our case was sustained by three witnesses. The counsel for the defense promptly contradicted this assertion, appealing to the jury that the mother was our only witness. I replied that it was true that the mother was the only witness who had testified under oath, but that her testimony was fully corroborated by that of the twins themselves—calling the attention of the jury to certain points of resemblance which they bore to the defendant, and quoting the well known line, ‘O, holy nature thou dost never plead in vain.’ So it turned out in this instance, for the silent testimony of the twins carried the case.”

lett, Robert Fulton, Alvan Bingham, Josiah Coe, Philip M. Starr.

*March Term, 1806.*—Alvan Bingham, Hopson Beebe, John Thompson, Silas Dean, John Lowry, Josiah Coe, Daniel Stewart, Robert Fulton, Baruch Dorr, Edmund Dorr, Peter Boyles, John Corey, Benaziah Simmons.

*July Term, 1806.*—Alvan Bingham, John Havner, David Pratt, Reuben Hurlbut, Jacob Boyles, Moses Bean, Canaday Lowry, Alexander Fulton, George Wolf, Joseph Brooks, Abraham Shidler, John Corey, Peter Boyles.

*November Term, 1806.*—Jehiel Gregory, Silas Dean, Samuel Humphreys, Thomas Sharp, William Howlett, Ignatius Thompson, Trueman Hewx, Michael Barker, Amos Thompson, William Weir, Phineas Allen, Benaziah Simmons, Silas Bingham.

*March Term, 1807.*—Hopson Beebe, Archibald Stewart, William Brooks, Alvan Bingham, Christopher Wolf, John Thompson, Jared Bobo, John Steele, Abram Pugsley, Josiah Waters, John Miller, John Hewitt, Jason Rice, Jehiel Gregory.

*December Term, 1807.*—Stephen Pilcher, Joseph Seamans, Obadiah Walker, Benjamin Davis, Jason Rice, John Corey, James Crippen, John Thompson, Jesse Halsey, Nathaniel Williams, John Brooks, Aaron Young, Simon Speed, Jehiel Gregory, Roswell Culver.

*April Term, 1808.*—George Seamans, Samuel Beaumont, Elijah Pilcher, Joshua Wyatt, Eleazar Penrod, Nehemiah Gregory, Uriah Tippee, John Simontown, Samuel Russell, Charles Harper, David Chapman, Baruch Dorr, Azel Johnson, Leonard Jewett.

*August Term, 1808.*—John Thompson, Moses Bean, Charles Harper, James Pilcher, David Boyles, John Walker, Ebenezer Currier, William Woodward, Caleb Merritt, Edmund Dorr, John Kelso, Jacob Wolf, John Lowry, William Gabill, Elijah Pilcher.

*December Term, 1808.*—Amos Thompson, Daniel Stewart, Joseph Fuller, Charles Rice, William Howlett, Robert Palmer,

John Brown, Jacob Boyles, Peter Boyles, Wm. Barrows, John Abbot, Simeon Cooley, Josiah Coe, Peter Grow.

*April Term, 1809.*—Nathan Woodbury, Azel Johnson, Wm. Peane, Thomas Armstrong, Wm. Harper, Isaac Stanley, Robert Linzee, Othniel Tuttle, Daniel Weethee, Jacob Cowdry, Isaac Barker Joshua Wood, Arthur Coates, John Brown 2d.

*August Term, 1809.*—Leonard Jewett, Martin Mansfield, Reuben Davis, William Rabb, Caleb Merritt, Daniel Stewart, Wm. Howlett, Wm. Weir, Samuel Coleman, Levi Johnson, Thomas Armstrong, Jacob Humphrey, Stephen Buckingham.

*December Term, 1809.*—Jehiel Gregory, George Walker, Jason Rice, Zebulon Griffin, Jonathan Watkins, Wm. Burch, Elijah Pilcher, Joseph Pugsley, John Armstrong, John Johnstone, Samuel Luckey, Martin Mansfield, Amos Thompson, Wm. Howlett, Eli Reynolds.

*April Term, 1810.*—John Brown, Benjamin Davis, Abraham Pugsley, Josiah True, Wm. Brown, Seth Fuller, Peter Phillips, Joshua Wyatt, Amos Crippen, Arthur Coates, Wm. Harper, Samuel Moore, John McKee, Eli Reynolds.

*August Term, 1810.*—John Corey, Arthur Coates, Daniel Weethee, Eli Reynolds, Abel Mann, James Crippen, Solomon Munroe, Charles Harper, Jarret Bobo, Joel Lowther, Jacob Cowdry, John Thompson, Jarret Jones, Joshua Wood, Elijah Pilcher.

*December Term, 1810.*—Jehiel Gregory, Joseph Guthrie, Charles Harper, Levi Stedman, James Armstrong, Isaac Wood, Wm. Burch, Joseph Fuller, Nathan Woodbury, Baruch Dorr, Samuel Luckey, Jabez Cooley, Silvanus Ames, Bernardus B. Lottridge, George Barrows.

*April Term, 1811.*—John Brown, Isaac Stephens, Caleb Merritt, Wm. Brown, Robert McKinstry, Henry Barrows, John Bowman, Abram Pugsley, Nicholas Phillips, Samuel Coleman, John Phillips, Moses Bean, John White.

*August Term, 1811.*—David Simontown, John Wright, Elisha Alderman, Robert Palmer, Christopher Herrold, George Ewing,

Jonathan Watkins, Isaac Havner, Isaac Wood, Edmund Dorr, Elijah Pilcher, John Abbot, Aaron Young, Moses Kay.

*December Term, 1811.*—John Phillips, Josiah Coe, Jeremiah Shumway, Thomas Armstrong, Arthur Coates, Thomas Sharp, John White, Nehemiah Davis, Othniel Tuttle, Job Phillips, Wm. Burch, Augusting Webster, John Irwin, John McKee, Robert Lowther.

*April Term, 1812.*—Silas Bingham, Henry Barrows, Frederick Tubbs, Ebenezer Barrows, Martin Mansfield, John Symmes, Christopher Herrold, Jacob Cowdry, Abel Mann, Wm. McKinsty, Joel Cowdry, Enos Thompson, John Corey, Levi Johnson, Edmund Dorr.

*December Term, 1812.*—Christopher Wolf, John White, Daniel Weethee, Nathaniel Williams, Hopson Beebe, John Corey, David Pratt, Edmund Dorr, Reuben J. Davis, Jeremiah Riggs, Joseph Guthrie, Arthur Coates, Martin Mansfield, Stephen Pilcher, Charles Harper.

*April Term, 1813.*—Alvan Bingham, Hopson Beebe, Charles Harper, Edmund Dorr, Arthur Coates, John Connor, Alexander Stedman, Barnet Brice, Eliphalet Case, Eliphalet Wheeler, George Barrows, Daniel Muncie, Alvan Bingham, jr.

*August Term, 1813.*—Stephen Pilcher, Charles Harper, Peter Grow, Joshua Selby, Ezra Green, B. B. Lottridge, Jacob Barker, Samuel Dailey, Abel Miller, David Pratt, Robert McKinsty, Seth Fuller, Abel Glazer, Jason Rice, Caleb Merritt.

*December Term, 1813.*—Alvan Bingham, Robert McKinsty, Thomas McClellan, John Brown, John Holmes, John Brooks, Conklin Buckley, Enos Thompson, Seth Fuller, Jehiel Gregory, Peter Boyles, Elisha Hulburt, Henry O'Neil.

*September Term, 1814.*—Stephen Pilcher, John Bowman, Samuel Luckey, Wm. Dorr, Joseph McMahon, George Walker, Elihu Francis, S. P. Standiff, Elijah Pilcher, John McKee, Arthur Coates, Abel Mann, Luther Danielson, Jonas Smith, Wm. McKinsty.

*January Term, 1815.*—George Ackley, Justus Reynolds, Jonathan Watkins, Robert McKinsty, Wm. Johnson, Wm. Buf-

Angton, Wm. McKinstry, George Barrows, Azel Johnson, Joseph Fuller, Obadiah Walker, Nathan Nye, Jacob Kimes, Josiah Coe.

*June Term, 1815.*—Josiah Coe, George Reeves, Ezekiel Worthing, David Ducher, John Brooks, Jacob Humphrey, Cephas Carpenter, Isaac Pierce, Charles Devol, John Walker, Asahel Cooley, James Gillmore, John Abbot, John Bowman, Elijah Pilcher.

*Personal and Biographical.*

A history of Athens county would be very incomplete without a biographical notice of the father and projector of the Ohio university—an institution that has done so much to shape and influence the history of this community. Though never a resident of the county, perhaps no one person has exerted a more deep and lasting influence on its welfare than *Dr. Manasseh Cutler*. He was the son of Hezekiah Cutler, who came from a thorough Puritan stock, and was born at Killingly, Connecticut, May 3, 1742. He graduated at Yale college, at the age of twenty-three, studied theology at Dedham, with the Rev. Thomas Balch, and having settled in the ministry at Ipswich, Massachusetts, in 1771, soon became known for ability and learning. A minister by profession, he was also an ardent votary of science, in some of whose walks he became very eminent. In 1766, he married Mary Balch, daughter of his preceptor in theology, and to them were born seven children, viz: Ephraim, Jervis,



Mary, Charles, Lavinia, Elizabeth, and Temple. Of these only three, Ephraim, Jervis, and Charles ever came to Ohio. Dr. Cutler was elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1781, of the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia, in 1783; an honorary member of the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1784; received the degree of LL. D. from Yale college in 1789; was elected a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1792, and was a representative in congress in 1800 and 1802. He was also active as president of a bible society in Massachusetts, and was a member of various other scientific bodies than those above named. He was a chaplain in the American army during the revolutionary war, and in one engagement took such an active and gallant part, that the colonel of his regiment presented him with a fine horse captured from the enemy.

On the formation of the Ohio Company in 1787, Dr. Cutler soon became a controlling spirit in that enterprise. In an original memorandum of his, now before us, referring to the origin of the company, etc., he says :

“At this meeting\* by y<sup>e</sup> desire of Major Sargent, I attended. I had suffered exceedingly in y<sup>e</sup> war, and after it was over, by paper money and y<sup>e</sup> high price of articles of living. My salary small and family large, for several years I thought y<sup>e</sup> people had

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\*The meeting of March 1st, 1787.

not done me justice, and I meditated leaving them. Purchasing lands in a new country appeared to be y<sup>e</sup> only thing I could do to secure a living to myself, and family in that unsettled state of public affairs. I had long before entertained an high opinion of y<sup>e</sup> lands in y<sup>e</sup> western country, which was a particular inducement to attend this meeting. The representations and plans of y<sup>e</sup> country gave me a still more favorable idea, and I determined to join y<sup>e</sup> association, but without y<sup>e</sup> most distant thought of taking an active part."

A few days later, he was chosen a director, and appointed as their agent to proceed to New York and negotiate with the congress then sitting there, for a purchase of western lands. From the very interesting journal kept by Dr. Cutler during this trip, we have quoted at some length. He conducted this negotiation with great skill and entire success. *He insisted that there should be an appropriation of land in the company's purchase for the endowment of a university*, and this feature was part of the contract with congress. Thus, the Ohio university is undoubtedly indebted to Dr. Cutler for its existence, and he was in later years very active in furthering its sound organization. He also originated the idea of a donation of land in each township, for educational and religious purposes, and made it a part of the contract with congress that two sections in each township should be reserved as school and ministerial lands.

In the summer of 1788, in order to attend a meeting of the directors of the Ohio Company, and to examine into the condition and prospects of the colony, Dr.

Cutler made a trip to Marietta, where he spent a short time, and became thoroughly acquainted with the nature of the country and wants of the settlers. His versatile talents and unusual business qualifications made his services to the company of great value, and for many years he continued to exercise a controlling influence in this great enterprise. During all this time he did not cease his labors as a minister of the gospel, nor his scientific investigations, particularly his botanical pursuits, in which branch of science he was very eminent.

The latter years of his life were spent peacefully in Massachusetts. He officiated as pastor of one church at Hamilton in that state, for nearly fifty years, and died in 1820.

*Eliphaz Perkins*, son of John Perkins, a leading citizen of Norwich, Connecticut, was born at that place, August 25, 1753. Deprived of his father at an early age, he was nevertheless enabled, through the exertions of his mother, to obtain a liberal education. Soon after leaving college, Mr. Perkins married Lydia Fitch, daughter of Dr. Jabez Fitch, of Canterbury, Connecticut, and engaged for a time in the mercantile business in that town. Subsequently he engaged in the same business in New Haven; having, however, an inclination to professional pursuits, he finally entered on the study of medicine with his father-in-law, and this was his vocation during the rest of his life. The times

being hard, and his family increasing, Dr. Perkins decided to remove to a new country, and, in the spring of 1789, leaving his family in Connecticut, he started for Marietta. On his arrival here he found a number of persons from Clarksburg, Virginia, engaged in laying out a road between that place and Marietta. At their urgent solicitation he returned with them to Clarksburg, where he practiced medicine for nearly two years. The Indian war began about this time, and Dr. Perkins witnessed some terrible scenes of border warfare. In one instance the savages killed and scalped a family near where the Doctor was passing the night. One member of the family, a girl about fourteen years old, was scalped and left for dead in the fence corner. Dr. Perkins found her the next morning, still alive, took her under his care, and with good treatment and an elastic constitution, she was finally restored to health.

In the autumn of 1790, Dr. Perkins returned to Connecticut and rejoined his family, whom he had not heard from, nor they from him, for nearly two years. During the next few years, he lived part of the time in Connecticut, and part of the time in Vermont, and practiced his profession. He finally decided to remove his family to the northwest, and they set out for Marietta on the third of June, 1799. He had at this time seven children, the eldest of whom, then a young lady of fifteen (afterwards Mrs. David Pratt, of Athens), kept a journal of their trip to Marietta, which is now before us. She says :

“Mother had a pleasant, easy-going horse, so that she could, whenever she choose, relieve herself from the tiresome motion of the wagon by riding on horseback. The first Sabbath was spent at Brandon, Vermont. It being a rainy day, we did not attend church, but spent the day within doors. The second Sabbath was passed at Williamstown, Massachusetts, where we heard an excellent sermon from mother’s brother, the Rev. Ebenezer Fitch. The third Sabbath, we were at Salisbury, Connecticut, where we were hospitably and kindly entertained by friends of the name of Chittenden. Here we also spent Monday in order to recruit our provision chest, which we did abundantly with bread, pies, cakes, etc., through the kind assistance of our friends. The next week brought us into Pennsylvania. At sunset on Saturday evening, we passed through Reading, intending to go a little into the country where we could find pasture for the team. About eleven o’clock we came to a large stone house with a sign for entertainment, where we were admitted. The next day was the Sabbath, and before evening, mother gave birth to twin daughters. We remained here three weeks, when, the babes being healthy, and mother’s health better than before, we resumed our journey. But now sickness began to prevail among the rest of the family, probably owing to the hot weather, bad water, and the abundance of fruit which was then ripe and very inviting to children, and doubtless, indulged in too freely by them. The people, at that time, along the mountains, were not very friendly to strangers, especially if they had sickness among them, fearing some contagious disease. Many of them were Dutch, and either did not, or pretended not to understand English, so that it was often with difficulty we found a place to lodge in. Several of the children were obliged to be placed on beds in the wagon, the motion of which, soon became so painful to them, as to make it necessary to suspend traveling for a time. A shelter was necessary. At last, with great difficulty, we found a hut that had been a blacksmith’s shop, with a blacksmith’s fire-place in it. There was no floor, but the shelter was better than nothing.

Here we remained ten days before the sick were so far recovered as to be able to bear the jolting of the wagon. We then traveled slowly, about six or seven miles a day, till we reached McKeesport on the Monongahela river. Here we were going to take a flat-boat and pursue our journey immediately by water, but some of the children who had been sick took a relapse, and we were detained several weeks. By this time the river was so low as to make navigation dangerous, yet, as we were all so anxious to reach Marietta before cold weather, it was determined to try it. Father procured a flat-boat of the largest and strongest sort, took in two men for rowers, and having placed the family and effects on board, with provisions for the voyage, we set out on the first of November, 1799. Owing to the extreme lowness of the water, we were three days in reaching Pittsburg—only about twelve miles. When we got into the Ohio river, it was very little better. At the end of the first day's travel, about three miles below Pittsburg, our boat fastened on the rocks, swung round, and seemed in imminent danger of being broken in pieces. At length, by great exertions, it was freed from the rocks and got to shore. The children were now so frightened they could not be persuaded to enter the boat again, nor were our parents much less alarmed. A consultation was held, but what could they do? On both sides of the river stretched an unbroken wilderness. The team had previously been sent on by land in charge of the two oldest boys. There were two horses on the boat belonging to the rowers; these father agreed to take and endeavor, without road or compass, to cross the country by land with the family and meet the boat at Wheeling. Taking all of us and the two horses out would somewhat lighten the load, and the men thought they could get on with the boat. Mother was placed on one horse and I on the other, each of us with one child in her lap and one on the horse behind her. Father took one of the babes in his arms, which he carried walking all the way to Wheeling, and the rest of the children walked beside him. In this way we traveled about a week through the forest, sometimes finding little paths, and sometimes

no trace at all. There were a few settlers through this region, and we were so fortunate as to find some sort of shelter every night. At last we reached Wheeling. The boat had not yet arrived, but reached there two days later. We all entered the boat once more, and having now more water, we floated along somewhat more easily. After another week of tedious travel, we landed at Marietta on the 18th of November, 1799. But our troubles were not ended. It was impossible to get a comfortable house, and for nearly two months we occupied one not at all fit for winter. One of the children was taken with bilious colic, and his life was despaired of for several weeks. About the last of December we got into a more comfortable house, and just then mother was seized with a nervous fever. Father doctored her and was assisted by other good physicians, but without avail. After a few days of painful sickness, her toils and trials were ended by death. Father was very much crushed by this affliction, and could hardly bear up. In the spring of 1800 father was invited by some gentlemen from the Athens settlement, on the Hockhocking, to settle there. He accepted the invitation and spent the summer practicing over a large extent of sparsely populated country. Having decided to locate at Athens, he procured a house, the best the place could afford, a log cabin with one room, one window, and one door. There was a spring of excellent water near the house, and a shed for horse and cow. Being unable to go for the family himself, he employed a trusty person to escort us through the wilderness from Marietta to Athens. Our goods were sent in a small boat down the Ohio, and up the Hockhocking. Only five of us went over at this time, the other four children being left temporarily with friends in Marietta. I rode on one horse with the babe in my lap, and one of the little girls behind me, and two of the boys rode another horse, the guide walked before and led the way. \* \* \* \* \*

At last we reached Athens in safety. We were well pleased with our new home, and rejoiced to be with father again, who was not less glad to see us once more. Here we enjoyed peace

and happiness. The first settlers here were generally poor, and father found it easier to earn money than to collect it. If the people had not money to pay with, he never distressed them. We suffered many privations; most of our bread had to be prepared from grain ground on hand mills, or horse mills, or pounded in a mortar, dug out of a large stump, with a spring pole fastened to an iron wedge for a pestle. A hand mill was something like a large coffee mill fastened to the side of the house or to a tree close by.

In 1803, father married Miss Catherine Greene, a sister of Mr. Griffin Greene, a prominent citizen of Marietta. Her mother, an aged and pious lady, became an inmate of our family at this time. She died in 1807, in her ninetieth year, and was the first person buried in the old grave-yard north of town."

Dr. Perkins was a man of much culture and refined manners, and, being a skillful physician, his arrival in the community was hailed with general joy. His professional skill, gentle manners, and quiet christian deportment gained him immediate popularity and influence which he was prompt to exert in every good cause. He labored to establish and sustain common schools in the county, and was an ardent friend of and liberal contributor to the Ohio university, of which institution he was one of the first trustees, and for many years treasurer. He was post master at Athens for about seventeen years, and county treasurer for many years. His descendants are widely scattered. His sons, Chauncey and Jabez, studied medicine with their father at Athens. Jabez died January 12th, 1843, having never married. Dr. Chauncey Perkins lives in Erie county, Pennsylvania. Eliphaz was a mechanic in early



life, but studied for the ministry and preached for several years before his death; his descendants are in Kansas. John, another son of Dr. Perkins, is well known in Athens, where he has lived nearly seventy years. Henry, another son, graduated at the Ohio university, and in theology at Princeton, New Jersey. He has been pastor of a Presbyterian church at Allentown, New Jersey, over thirty years. One of Dr. Perkins' daughters was married to Captain David Pratt, of Athens; another to Mr. Isaac Taylor, long known as a hotel keeper in this town; another to Dr. Medbury, formerly a physician here; another to Dr. Wm. Thompson, of Richmond, Ohio. Seven of Dr. Perkins' descendants have been ministers of the gospel, and six the wives of ministers; he died at Athens, April 29th, 1828.

The *Rev. Jacob Lindley*, seventh son of Demas Lindley, one of the early settlers of Washington county, Pennsylvania, was born in that county, June 13, 1774. At the age of eighteen he was sent to Jefferson college, Pennsylvania, and from there went to Princeton, New Jersey, where he graduated in 1798. After a course of theological study he was licensed to preach by the "Washington Presbytery," and in 1803, he removed to Ohio, settling first at Beverly, on the Muskingum. Having been selected by the first board of trustees of the Ohio university to organize and conduct that institution, he removed to Athens in 1808,

and opened the academy there. For several years he had entire charge of the infant college, which he conducted with distinguished ability and success. He was the prime mover in securing the erection of the college buildings, and also in founding the Presbyterian church at Athens. He labored assiduously here for about twenty years, during part of which time he was the only Presbyterian minister in this portion of the state. He returned in 1829 to Pennsylvania, where he spent the rest of his life, and died at the residence of his son, Dr. Lieutellus Lindley, in Connellsville, Pennsylvania, January 29th, 1857.

Dr. Lindley was no common man, but an earnest thinker and conscientious worker. The leading trait in his character was an inflexible and unswerving devotion to moral principle. His whole life was a continuous effort to promote the moral welfare of others. He was of an amiable disposition, possessed an eminent degree of sound common sense, and an unerring judgment of men. His kindness of heart and known purity of life and conduct gave him great influence with all classes during his long residence at Athens. One who knew him well says: "I have seen him go into a crowd of rough backwoodsmen and hunters, who used to meet at the village tavern every Saturday, and settle and control them in their quarrels and fights, as no other man in that community could." His control of the students under his charge was equally extraor-

dinary, and was always marked not less by gentleness of manner than by firmness of purpose. He led a laborious life at Athens, and his works live after him.

*John Brown*, well known in southern Ohio as "General Brown," son of Captain Benjamin Brown, one of the pioneers of Ames, was born in Rowe, Massachusetts, December 1, 1785. In 1787, his father's family moved to Hartford, Washington county, New York, and in 1796, with several other families seeking homes in the west, came to the Forks of Yoh, on the Monongahela, three miles above Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Here they remained till February, 1797, building a boat during the winter, in which they completed their journey and arrived at Marietta, February 11, 1797. Of the twenty-three persons of various ages who descended the river in this boat, there are but four now living, viz: Samuel and John Brown, Mrs. Aphia Hamilton, and Mrs. Phebe Sprague. As elsewhere stated, Captain Brown's family came out to Ames township in the spring of 1799, moving their household effects by canoes down the Ohio, and up the Hockhocking and Federal creek—the members of the family not required to work the canoes, coming across the country.

In 1811, Mr. Brown married Sophia Walker, daughter of Dr. Ezra Walker, and continued to live in Ames township till 1817, when he removed to the town of Athens, where he still resides. On coming to Athens,





Ang. F. G. G. G. G.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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he kept a public house one year at the Zadoc Foster house (on the south end of the lot now owned and occupied by Judge Barker), when he bought the corner property in front of the university, and built and kept the "Brown House," so long known to the public, and so kindly remembered by his hosts of friends. He kept this house till December, 1865, a period of forty-seven years.

In 1808, Mr. Brown was elected captain in the militia, and was subsequently made major and colonel, and in 1817 was elected brigadier general. He was county auditor from 1822 to 1827, and has been treasurer of the Ohio university from 1824 to the present time. He was also mayor of Athens for several years, and coroner for two terms. He is, in every good sense, one of the village fathers who has "come down to us from a former generation." Possessed of sound judgment, a kind heart, sterling integrity, and unfailing humor, General Brown has for fifty years had the respect and affectionate regard of this community. His genial wit still oft enlivens the social circle, and his venerable form is recognized with pleasure by all, on the streets of the town where he has lived so long and where, without an enemy in the world, he is cheerfully approaching the end of his journey. He reared here a family of six sons and two daughters; four of the sons graduated at the Ohio university, and three survive, viz: Oscar W., Wm. Loring, and Archibald Douglas;

the latter is cashier of a bank in Pomeroy, Ohio. One of the daughters, Mrs. Hannah Pratt, lives in Illinois, and the other, Mrs. Lucy Hey, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

*A. G. Brown*, son of Captain Benjamin Brown, was born April 16th, 1798, near Waterford, in Washington county, Ohio, and has lived in Athens county since he was one year old. His youth was passed in working on his father's farm (in Ames township), and in assiduous study and preparation for college. In due time he became a student at the Ohio university, and graduated there in 1822. From 1824 to 1825, he was preceptor in the academical department of the university. In 1825 he began the publication of the *Athens Mirror*, the first paper printed in the county, and continued as its editor and publisher for five years. From 1827 to 1833, he was county recorder, which office he again filled from 1836 to 1841, when he began the practice of law in Athens. In 1841 he became a member of the board of trustees of the university, which position he still holds. He was a delegate to the convention which formed the present constitution of Ohio, and was for two years president judge of the Athens district. For many years past he has practiced law in Athens. Judge Brown came to Athens county when nearly the whole of its area was an unbroken forest and to the town of Athens when it was a mere cluster of log cabins. The personal friend and associate of the leading men of the

community who assisted in building up society here, most of whom have passed away, he has witnessed the steady development of the county during considerably more than half a century. Looking back over its whole history to a period before it was organized, he may very truthfully say :

— “ *Quæ ipse vidi,  
Et quorum pars magna fui.* ”

Judge Brown's sons, Henry T. Brown, an active lawyer and business man, and Louis W. Brown, for many years clerk of the county, are natives of Athens, and well known in the community.

*John Perkins*, son of Dr. Eliphaz Perkins, was born in Leicester, Vermont, in 1791, and came to the town of Athens with his father's family in the year 1800. His father located at Athens on account of the prospective establishment of the Ohio university here, and since that time two of his sons, five grandsons and two great-grandsons have graduated at this institution. Mr. Perkins has lived in Athens nearly seventy years, and was post master here for about twenty-two years. He has been engaged in mercantile pursuits during a large part of his life, and is known in the county as a most upright man and a good citizen. Though nearly eighty years old, his firm step and clear mind bespeak a temperate life and approving conscience.



*Henry Bartlett*, the son of Captain William Bartlett, was born at Beverly, Massachusetts, February 3, 1771. His father was a seafaring man, and received, it is believed, the first commission that was issued to engage in privateering, during the revolutionary struggle, in which he rendered conspicuous service. In 1785, Captain Bartlett removed with his family to Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and settled near the Forks of Yoh, where he lived till his death in 1794. While living in Westmoreland county, Henry Bartlett married Miss Betsey Corey, and in 1796, brought his young family to the northwestern territory and settled the next year at Athens. During his youth, Mr. Bartlett enjoyed pretty good educational advantages, and after his arrival at Athens was soon recognized as one of the readiest and most accurate clerks and business men in the community. Previous to the organization of the county, he taught school several quarters in the surrounding neighborhoods. Soon after the organization of the county in 1805, he was appointed by the county commissioners as clerk of the board and of the county courts, which position he held, discharging the duties with great fidelity for thirty years. He ceased to be clerk in 1836, and from that time till his death, acted as a justice of the peace in Athens. He was also for many years secretary and auditor of the Ohio university. He died September 9th, 1850. Esquire Bartlett was a man of great purity of character, thoroughly judicial mind

and excellent capacity for business. During his early residence here, he adapted himself with admirable facility to pioneer life, and to the changing circumstances of the times, and was for many years almost indispensable in the management of county affairs. He possessed a fine quality of wit and humor, which he was fond of exercising, though always without offense to others, and which made him one of the most popular as he was one of the most highly respected men in the county. His family consisted of two sons and ten daughters, of whom nine daughters are living.

*Robert Linzee*, a native of western Pennsylvania, came to this county in 1801, and settled on a farm two miles below the town of Athens, on the "River road," where he lived nearly thirty years. Mr. Linzee was a leading man in the early history of the county. He was the first sheriff of the county and held the office several years; was a member of the state legislature several terms, a trustee of the Ohio university and associate judge of the court of common pleas. In 1830 he removed to Mercer county, Ohio, where he died in 1850.

Mr. Linzee occupied a prominent place in county affairs during his residence here, and in private life was an amiable and interesting man. His name is still kindly remembered by those who were acquainted with

him, among whom he had many admirers and warm friends.

*John Johnson*, settled in Athens with his family as early as 1805. One of his daughters was married in 1807 to Robert Linzee, and another, about the same time, to Jacob Dombaugh, who was an active man, and at an early day kept public house where the Brown House is now situated. A son of John Johnson's, Samuel, married a daughter of Abel Glazier, of Ames. In 1815 Mr. Johnson and Mr. Glazier carried the mail, as sub-contractors, between Marietta and Chillicothe, when there were but two post offices on the route, viz., at Athens and Adelphi, Ross county.

*Capt. Philip M. Starr*, a native of Middletown, Connecticut, came to the town of Athens in 1801, where for several years he followed the mercantile business. Later he located on a rich and valuable farm on the river three miles below Athens where he died in 1857. Capt. Starr was a very active business man, and of more than average mental culture. He had considerable means when he came to the county, and though never in public life he was a man of influence among the early settlers. He devoted the latter part of his life to horticulture and fruit growing, in which he was notably successful.

*Joseph B. Miles*, for many years a merchant and

leading citizen of Athens, was born in Rutland, Massachusetts, June 21, 1781. In 1791 he removed to the northwestern territory with his parents, who settled at Belpre, in Washington county. Here he lived till he was twenty-seven years old. In 1808 Mr. Miles came to Athens and began business as a merchant. In January, 1809, he married Miss Elizabeth Buckingham, of Carthage township. He lived in Athens for thirty-five years, during which period he was prominent in all social, religious and business movements here. He engaged extensively in the mercantile and milling business, and was universally respected as an upright man and exemplary christian. In 1843 he removed with his family to Washington, Tazewell county, Illinois, where he died September 18th, 1860. His first wife died in Athens in 1821. By his first marriage Mr. Miles had six children—Catherine B., who married Mr. C. Dart and died in Houston, Texas, in February 1866; Lucy W., who married Mr. L. A. Alderson and died in Greenbriar county, Virginia, in 1832; Belinda C., who married Mr. Jared Sperry and now lives in Mt. Vernon, Ohio; Pamela B., who died before marriage at Havana, Cuba; Elizabeth B., who was married in Natchez and died there of yellow fever in September, 1837; and Benjamin E., who now resides in Washington, Illinois. Mr. Miles married for his second wife Miss Elizabeth Fulton. Their children were Martha M., James H.,

Daniel L., Joseph B., Mary F., William R., and Sarah J. Mary, Martha and Joseph live in Washington, Illinois, James in Chicago, and Sarah J. (Mrs. Robert Wilson) in Farmington, Iowa. William R. died young; and Daniel L., who was lieutenant-colonel of the Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteers, during the war of the rebellion, was killed in a skirmish near Farmington, Tennessee, in May, 1862. Mr. Miles's second wife died in 1862.

*Jonathan Wilkins*, one of the earliest inhabitants of Athens, was a man of very considerable learning, and for some time taught a pioneer school. Of his son, Timothy Wilkins, the following reminiscence is furnished by Dr. C. F. Perkins; it is hardly less strange than the history immortalized by Tennyson in "Enoch Arden."

Mr. Wilkins was skillful and enterprising in business, but, through no fault of his own, became embarrassed, was hard pressed by creditors, and pursued by writs. In those days, when a man could be imprisoned for a debt of ten dollars, to fail in business was an awful thing. Wilkins was not dishonest, but had a heart to pay if he could. He battled bravely with his misfortunes for a considerable period, but with poor success. One day in the year 1829, full of despair, he came from his home west of town, across the Hockhocking, and having transacted some business with the

county clerk, went out, and was supposed to have returned home. The next morning it became known that he was not at his house. Inquiry and search being made, the boat in which he usually crossed the river was seen floating bottom upward, and his hat was also found swimming down the stream. Mr. Wilkins was a popular man in the community; news of his loss soon spread, the people gathered from every quarter and measures were taken to recover the body. The river was dragged, a cannon was fired over the water, and other means resorted to, but to no purpose; the body was not found. The excellent Mrs. Wilkins put on mourning, and friends remembered the departed for a time with affectionate regret. As time sped, the sad incident was forgotten, and Timothy Wilkins passed out of mind. His wife, faithful for a time to his memory, had for years been the wedded partner of another, and a little family was growing up around the remarried woman and her second husband, Mr. Goodrich, himself a well known and worthy citizen.

In 1834, a vague rumor—an undefined whisper from the distant southwest—circulated through the settlement that Mr. Wilkins yet survived. Soon more positive assertions were made, and finally it was said that the missing man was alive and on his way home. At last a neighbor received a letter from Wilkins, announcing his approach; fearing to shock his wife by a sudden appearance, he had himself originated the rumors of

safety, and now announced that he would soon be in Athens. He knew of his wife's second marriage, and in friendly spirit proposed to meet her and Mr. Goodrich. Much excitement and distress ensued. Mr. Wilkins arrived; there was a cordial meeting and strange interview among the parties most concerned. The conference was friendly and satisfactory. Messrs. Wilkins and Goodrich honestly left to the wife of their rivalry the final choice of her companion, and she selected her first love, to the great grief, but with the full acquiescence of her second. The reunited pair bade adieu to their friends, and together set out for the distant south.

Mr. Wilkins' disappearance was a ruse to escape his creditors. He went to New Orleans, engaged successfully in boating, accumulated money enough to pay off all his debts, which he honorably did, and returned to claim his beloved.

*John Gillmore*, was born in Washington county, New York, December 25, 1786. Soon afterward his father's family removed to Rutland, Vermont, whence they emigrated in 1813 to Ohio. They were accompanied by Cephas Carpenter, a relative by marriage, and all settled in Athens. The father, James Gillmore, was the first elder in the Presbyterian church formed here about the time of his arrival, and was an excellent man; he died July 25, 1827. John Gillmore held sev-

eral minor local offices, and served with credit two terms in the state legislature. In 1836 he removed with his family to Illinois, and finally settled at Rock Island, where he died, July 9th, 1859. The Gillmores are remembered as one of the most substantial families of the town during their long residence here. One of the daughters of Mr. James Gillmore, Ann Eliza, married the Rev. S. S. Miles (brother of Mr. Joseph B. Miles), who now lives in Geneseo, Illinois.

*Archibald B. Walker*, son of Dr. Ezra Walker, was born in East Poultney, Vermont, October 15th, 1800, and came to Ames township with his father's family when ten years old. In 1825 he married Lucy W., daughter of Judge Silvanus Ames, and in 1826 they removed to the town of Athens, where they have since resided continuously, and reared a family of two sons and four daughters. Soon after coming to Athens, Mr. Walker, having formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, James J. Fuller, engaged for a few years in the cattle-driving and pork-packing business. In 1839 they commenced the manufacture of salt at the old furnace, opposite Chauncey, afterward owned by Judge Pruden, and soon after they bored the wells and erected the furnaces now owned by M. M. Greene & Co., at Salina. For a period of twenty years the firm name of Fuller & Walker was well and favorably known in the valley. The partnership was dissolved in 1853. Since



that time, Mr. Walker has not engaged in active business on his own account. During his long residence in the county, he has always been one of the most prompt to embrace, and ardent in the support of every useful local enterprise. At home and abroad, in personal intercourse and through the press, he has ever been ready and efficient in advocating the development of the county, and presenting her claims. He was one of the original friends, and for several years a director of the Marietta & Cincinnati railroad, and an early and strenuous advocate for the construction of the Hocking Valley railroad, which is now building under the energetic control of younger men, and which he is likely to live to see finished.

Having been through his whole life scrupulously faithful and exact in the discharge of every duty, public and private, Mr. Walker is peacefully completing the last stage of a long and worthy career in the very spot where he began it. If his part has been acted on a comparatively narrow stage, it has nevertheless, been well acted—"there all the honor lies." Happy in the respect of his neighbors and the affection of children and grand-children, he possesses, in the words of Shakespeare :

"That which should accompany old age,  
As honor, love, obedience, troops of friends."

*Dr. Leonard Jewett*, one of the pioneer physicians of the county, was born September 6, 1770, in Littleton

county, Massachusetts. He studied medicine and surgery at the Boston Medical college, and received a diploma from that institution in 1792. In 1796 he married Miss Mary Porter, of Rutledge, Massachusetts. After this he served four years as assistant surgeon in the New York hospital. In 1802 he removed from New York to Washington county, Ohio, and in 1804 or '5 to the town of Athens, and occupied a house built by Captain Silas Bingham, on the lot now owned and occupied by Mr. George W. Norris. In 1806 he was elected to the state senate, which position he held till 1811. When hostilities began in 1812, he was commissioned as surgeon in the army of the northwest, under Harrison, and was assigned to duty on the staff of General Tupper. At the close of the war he returned to Athens and resumed the practice of medicine with success. In 1816, while performing a surgical operation, he received poisonous matter into a small wound on his hand, the absorption of which produced violent inflammation and sudden death; he died May 13, 1816. Dr. Jewett was a gentleman of fine intelligence and professional ability, and there are those living who still cherish his memory as one of the leaders among the early citizens of the county.

Four of his sons survive; three of them, Joseph, Leonard, and Leonidas Jewett, live in the vicinity of Athens, and one resides in Oregon. Leonidas was

county auditor from 1839 to 1843, and was for many years a successful lawyer of Athens.

Leonidas Jewett, jr., son of the last named, a lawyer of promise, is settled at Athens, where he was born. During the late war of the rebellion, he served three years with credit as adjutant of the Sixty-first Ohio regiment.

*Calvary Morris*, was born near Charleston, West Virginia, in 1798, and spent his youth in the Kanawha valley, laboring on a farm, and battling with the hardships of pioneer life. In 1818 he married the eldest daughter of Dr. Leonard Jewett, of Athens, and in the spring of 1819, located permanently in that town. "Finding myself," says Mr. Morris, "a stranger in a strange land, and obliged to make provision for the support of my family, my first step was to rent five acres of ground, upon which to raise a crop of corn. While cultivating that ground, during the summer of 1819, the Rev. Jacob Lindley (then acting president of the Ohio university) came to me and said that a school teacher was much needed in our town, and proposed that I undertake it. I informed him that I was not at all qualified—that reading, writing, spelling, and a limited knowledge of arithmetic was the extent of my education. He said that the wants of the community required that arithmetic, geography, and English grammar be taught in the school, and, 'now,' said

he, 'I will tell you what to do. I have the books and you have brains; take my books, go to studying, and recite to me every day for three weeks, and by that time I will have a school made up for you; you will then find no difficulty in keeping ahead of your scholars so as to give satisfaction in teaching, and no one will ever suspect your present lack of qualifications.' I consented, went to work, and at the end of three weeks went into the school. I taught and studied during the day, and cultivated my corn-field part of the time by moonlight, and if there was ever any complaint of my lack of qualifications as a teacher, it never came to my knowledge."

In 1823, Mr. Morris was elected sheriff of Athens county, and re-elected by an almost unanimous vote in 1825. In 1827, at the close of his term as sheriff, he was elected to the lower branch of the state legislature, and re-elected in 1828. In 1829, he was elected to the state senate, and re-elected in 1833. In 1835, when the project of the Hocking canal was being warmly agitated, Mr. Morris was elected again to the popular branch of the assembly from Athens and Hocking counties as the avowed friend of that measure, and in the belief that he was the best man to engineer it through. To his adroit management and indefatigable efforts, the measure was mainly indebted for success, as he had to overcome the almost unanimous opposition of both branches of the legislature and the whole board of canal commissioners.

He had the pleasure of seeing the bill triumphantly passed a few days before the close of the session, and on his return home his constituents tendered him a public dinner.

In 1836 Mr. Morris was elected to congress, and re-elected in 1838 and '40.

In 1843 he retired from public life and engaged, to some extent, in wool growing and in the introduction of fine-wooled sheep into the county, in which business he rendered great service to the farming community.

In 1847 he removed to Cincinnati and engaged in mercantile pursuits, which finally proving unfortunate, he returned to Athens in 1854, and in 1855 was elected probate judge of the county, which office he still holds.

Few men, if any, now living in the county, have filled a larger part in its official history than Judge Morris, and, during his varied services, he has discharged every trust with honor and fidelity. His public life lay chiefly in the better days of the republic, and of our politics, and, from his present standpoint, secure in the confidence and respect of all his neighbors, he has the rare and happy fortune of being able to review his whole career without shame and without remorse.

Judge Morris is a brother of the Reverend Bishop Morris of the M. E. church. William D. Morris, of Illinois, and Levi Morris, of Louisiana, are the other surviving brothers.

*Capt. Isaac Barker*, came from New Bedford, Massachusetts, to the northwestern territory in the autumn of 1788. For several years he lived in the Belpre settlement on the Ohio river, about fifteen miles from Marietta, and his name is preserved as one of the heads of families who, in the year 1792, took refuge in the block house called "Farmers' Castle," where he and his family remained till the violence of the Indian war was spent. In 1798 he removed with his family of five sons and three daughters to Athens township, and settled near the village of Athens, where he passed the remainder of his life. Capt. Barker was a sea-faring man in early life, being supercargo and captain of an East India vessel, and, during the revolutionary war, took an active part in the privateering service. His sons were Michael, Isaac, Joseph, William, and Timothy.

*Michael Barker*, son of Capt. Isaac Barker, born in 1776 at New Bedford, Massachusetts, came with his father's family to Marietta in the autumn of 1788. During the Indian war, from 1792 to 1795, while they lived in Farmers' Castle at Belpre, Michael served as a scout or spy against the Indians in a company raised under the authority of the Ohio Company. He came to Athens county and settled near the town of Athens in April, 1798, where he spent the rest of his life. He married a daughter of Wm. Harper, who was county

treasurer from 1809 to 1811. Mr. Barker was for many years a constable in Athens township, and held other local offices. He was a man of scrupulous exactness in his dealings, and of much firmness and decision of character. He died June 10th, 1857.

*Isaac Barker, jr.* (son of Capt. Isaac Barker), long known in Athens county as Judge Barker, was born in Massachusetts, February 17th, 1779. He remembers his father setting out with his family for the northwestern territory, from New Bedford, Massachusetts, in 1788. They had one wagon drawn by two oxen and a horse, and were accompanied on the journey by Capt. Dana and his family, also emigrating to the west. Their journey was not marked by any special incidents. At one stage Capt. Barker's oxen having become footsore, he exchanged them with a Dutch tavern keeper where they stopped for a fresh yoke. The next morning the boys started on early with the team, the father remaining behind a little while. They had not gone far before they came to a very bad place in the road, over which the oxen refused to go. After working with them for some time the boys suddenly thought it was because the Dutch oxen could not understand English that they were so stubborn; one of them accordingly went back for the Dutchman, who soon arrived, and, by dint of considerable hard swearing at the oxen, in good Dutch, got the team over. The emigrants traveled by land to Sum-

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Judge Isaac Barker.

JUDGE ISAAC BARKER.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT.

Born in 1782, at Newbury, Mass.

rill's ferry on the Youghiogheny, where they procured keel boats and continued their journey by water to Marietta. Captain Barker's family spent several months in the family of Paul Fearing, at Marietta, and removed thence early in 1790 to Belpre, where he settled on a one-hundred-acre donation lot. They had hard work to get along here, especially for the first year or two. Mr. Barker says corn was four dollars a bushel and none to be had at that. They lived for one year almost solely on corn bread and wild meat. "One quart of cracked corn," he says, "was the daily allowance for our family of eleven. The children used to stand by looking wistfully while their mother baked the daily loaf, and, having received their share, would hoard it carefully, nibbling it like mice during the day." They lived in a block house, or garrison, some four or five years, during the Indian war. At this time, says Mr. Barker, "I was a pretty smart boy and able to handle a gun, and while father and my older brother worked in the field I stood guard with the rifle. Every evening we barred up the door before sundown. In the morning we would open it an hour or so after sunrise, look carefully about, and, if no signs of Indians appeared, brother Michael would go out (the door being instantly barred behind him), and scout around a little." Several men and one or two whole families were killed in that neighborhood by the Indians during these years. Mr. Barker recollects the massacre of the

Armstrong family just across the river from where they lived, the killing of Benoni Hurlbut, the chase of Waldo Putnam and a man by the name of Bradford, by the Indians, and the killing of Jonas Davis. This Mr. Davis was engaged to be married to one of Mr. Barker's sisters. One cold day during the war, seeing an old skiff lodged on the ice some distance up the river, he ventured out to get some nails out of her—they being very scarce. He never returned. Being missed, after several hours, and search made, he was found dead, stripped, and scalped on the ice. Though a mere boy during the war, Judge Barker received at its close one hundred acres of land as a bounty from the Ohio Company—Gen. Putnam saying that he had done a man's work and was entitled to a man's pay. He used frequently to stand guard at the garrison. Capt. Barker's family came to Athens in 1798, poling their goods up the Hockhocking in a light flat boat. These boats were built with a "running board" along each side; a man on each side, furnished with a long pole with a pointed iron socket at the end, would plant it firmly in the bottom at the bow, and then with the upper end against his shoulder would run to the other end of the boat, propelling her by that means. After coming to Athens they lived a year at the point close by Harper's Ferry. Judge Barker tended this ferry for a while, and married Christiana, a daughter of Mr. Harper. At this time they got their milling from

Capt. Devol's floating mill, some five miles up the Muskingum. It took four days to go and come, and Mr. Barker has himself more than once made this long trip to mill, going down the Hocking and up the Ohio in a pirogue and back by the same means, camping out over night.

Moses Hewitt and his family lived a short distance up Margaret's creek. In the year 1800 some thirty or forty Indians came in on Factory run, and three of them came over to Mr. Hewitt's house. They were somewhat in liquor, and Mrs. Hewitt in alarm sent hastily for her husband, who was a short distance from the house. When Mr. Hewitt came he ordered them in their own language (he had been a captive among them several years before), to "go away." They refused and were insulting, whereupon, Mr. Hewitt flew at the drunken ones and knocked one into the fireplace and another headlong out of the door. Mr. Barker was in the house and saw all this. A large athletic Indian, who seemed entirely sober, then grappled with Mr. Hewitt, and, after a violent struggle, threw him on the floor. Mrs. Hewitt and Mr. Barker, excited and alarmed, were about to pull the Indian off, when Hewitt, who was a noted fighter, told them to stand off and let him alone. The fight continued, and Hewitt very soon managed to get his thumb into the Indian's eye, and the Indian's thumb into his mouth, when the latter screamed lustily and begged till Mr.

Hewitt released him. The moment he was on his feet, the Indian ran to the door, and, putting his hand to his mouth, gave a regular war whoop, loud and long continued, and then ran away. Mr. Hewitt himself was now alarmed, thinking that the Indians would come over in the night and kill his family. Accordingly he requested Garner Bobo, a man named Cutter, and Mr. Barker, to stay in the house over night while he took his wife and the children some distance across the river. Mr. Barker says, "We had but one gun among us—Bobo had that. I was armed with a heavy clothes-pounder, and Cutter had a conchshell which he was to blow for help in case of great danger. Thus accoutered we barred the door and prepared to pass the night. We took turns sleeping and watching, and the night passed without any alarm. About daylight I, being on watch, saw some three or four figures gliding about the house and thought the redskins were after us now, sure enough. I woke Bobo who had his gun ready in a minute, and we were preparing for a fight or a siege when we heard a loud laugh outside, and looking out saw Hewitt and two or three others coming up to the house. They had come over to scare us. We saw nothing more of the Indians, and I think this was the last considerable party of them seen in this part of the country."

About this time Mr. Barker and Martin Mansfield, both vigorous and athletic young men, boated a man

by the name of King, with his family, from the mouth of the Hockhocking river to the falls near Logan, and then dragging their boat around the falls, continued to within eight miles of Lancaster, the place of destination.

The town plat of Athens was very heavily timbered at that time, and the few cabins that stood here were widely separated. Mr. Barker, though not a great hunter, killed great numbers of deer and turkeys hereabouts. He remembers the following incident :

Chris. Stevens, who lived back of the college green, and a German named Heck, were hunting one day and treed a bear in a large poplar not far from Stevens' house. The bear climbed nearly to the top of the tree, which was very tall. They had but one gun between them and Stevens was to shoot. He had leveled his gun, taken aim, and sighted a long time ; Heck stood a little off waiting for him to fire, when, his patience exhausted, he asked, "Why don't you shoot?" Stevens, who was a kind-hearted man, deliberately lowered his gun and said, "I can't bear to see the poor thing *fall so far!*"

"Gott im himmels," cried the German, "gif me de gun den—I shoots him if he falls mit de ground till a a tousand feet," and bruin soon came tumbling down.

Old Capt. Barker's first cabin stood about where Joseph Herrold's house now stands. He afterward built a log house near the river, south of John White's present residence. Judge Barker's first cabin was about

one hundred yards west of his father's first house, and he afterward built a two story hewed log house on the river bank just at the turn of the road, which was standing a few years since and occupied by the Beveridge family. In 1815 Judge Barker moved to the town plat and took the "Dunbaugh House," which stood where the "Brown House" now stands, and which had been kept for a few years by one Jacob Dunbaugh. Mr. Barker kept tavern here till 1818, when he bought the lot where he now resides. There was a hewed log house on this lot, and he kept tavern in this while his brick house was building, and till it was finished in 1823, and then in his present dwelling till about 1830.

During his residence here, Mr. Barker has held the offices of county sheriff, county treasurer, collector of rents for the university, and was judge of the court of common pleas for about ten years. He has lived for nearly three score years and ten in the town of Athens, where he is passing the evening of his days in quiet serenity. Though now eighty-nine years old, he devoted a part of every day during this season (1868), to working in his garden—his favorite employment—and is in possession of all his faculties.

*Abel Stedman*, son of Judge Alexander Stedman, was born at Newbridge, Vermont, February 26, 1785, and came to the town of Athens in 1802. In 1811 he married Miss Sally Foster. In 1812 he enlisted in the

United States service, and on the march from Sandusky to Chillicothe he marched next in the ranks to Thomas Corwin. Returning to Athens he engaged in his trade of house carpenter, and passed the rest of his days here. He was a man of active temperament and untiring industry, a professing christian and full of good works. He died December 20, 1859.

*Zadoc Foster*, a native of Massachusetts, moved with his family to the northwestern territory in 1796. He came, like many others of that time, with an *ox team* as far as Olean point, on the Allegheny river, and thence proceeded by *raft* down the Ohio to Marietta, in the autumn of 1796. Remaining that winter in the stockade, he made a settlement in the spring at Belpre, and remained there till he came to Athens in 1809. During his residence at the Belpre settlement Indians were frequently seen, but had ceased to be considered dangerous, while the game was so abundant that deers and turkeys were sometimes shot, from the door of the cabin in which he lived.

Mr. Foster kept public house in Athens till his death, by the "cold plague," in 1814, first in the McNichol house, on the lot now occupied by Mr. E. C. Crippen, and afterwards across the street, on the lot now occupied by Judge Barker. His widow, Mrs. Sarah Foster, continued to keep the tavern a few years after his death. She then began to teach a school for



young children, in which vocation she was eminently useful and beloved during the remainder of her life. She continued to teach within four days of her death, which occurred in 1849.

*Hull Foster*, only surviving son of Zadoc Foster, was born in Sudbury, Rutland county, Vermont, January 23, 1796, and came to the northwestern territory, with his father's family, when a few months old. His first visit to Athens was in 1804 or 1805. He came to visit Dr. Leonard Jewett's family, and traveled on horseback from Belpre, there being no visible road, but only a horse path which crossed the river at the present site of Coolville. There was a sort of ferry at this point. At that time one Strickland kept public house in a log building, on the lot now occupied by Judge Barker, and Joseph B. Miles had a small lot of goods in a room of the same house. Timothy Wilkins had a cabin near where General John Brown now lives, and ran a little distillery in the hollow close by. Esquire Henry Bartlett lived in a cabin back of the college green, near the present site of Mr. J. L. Kessinger's house. There was a horse mill on the point of the hill, a short distance northeast of town, on the Bingham farm. Mr. Foster, when a boy, drove the horse at this mill; the usual terms of grinding were, that parties should bring their own horse and pay one-fourth of the corn as toll. In 1809 his father removed

with his family to Athens. In the interval a few brick houses had been built; Dr. Eliphaz Perkins had built on the Ballard corner, and Esquire Henry Bartlett on Congress street, nearly opposite Dr. Wilson's present residence; these, with Abbott's tavern, the academy building, near Nelson Van Vorhes' present residence, and a school house just east of where the Presbyterian church now stands, were, it is thought, all the brick buildings here in 1809. When about seventeen, Mr. Foster took up the trade of shoemaking—to use his own expression, “just as a cow does kicking—in her own head.” Between 1816 and 1820 he traveled with his kit on his back, through the west and southwest, visiting the present states of Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, etc. In 1821 he returned to Athens, resumed his trade, and built the house where Mr. Abner Cooley now lives. Soon after he married his first wife, a daughter of Mr. Ira Carpenter. Since then he has steadily adhered to his trade, at which he has worked for more than fifty years, and still works some, though under no necessity to do so. There is one family in the county for whom he has made shoes for five generations. He has been twice married—his second wife was a daughter of Mr. William Brown, of Lee township—and is now a widower. A man of strong sense, strict integrity, and marked force of character, his life and virtues are known and read of all his neighbors.

*Ebenezer Currier*, born at Hempstead, Rockingham county, New Hampshire, December 15, 1772, came to Ohio in 1804, and to the town of Athens in 1806, where he lived nearly fifty years. He was one of the pioneer merchants of Athens. In 1811, having to transport a small supply of goods from Baltimore, he hired Archelaus Stewart to fetch them. The latter made the trip to and from Baltimore, all the way in a light wagon, and delivered the goods safely in Athens, after a journey of about two months. During Mr. Currier's long residence here he filled several town and township offices, was justice of the peace, county commissioner, and county treasurer; was four times a member of the state legislature as senator and representative, and for about twenty-one years was associate judge of the court of common pleas. For more than forty years he engaged here in mercantile pursuits, in which he was quite successful, amassing a considerable fortune. Judge Currier died March 2, 1851. Many of his descendants live in the county.

*Conrad Hawk* was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania. While a young man he removed to Harrison county, Virginia, where he married Miss Nancy Read in 1805, and whence he moved to Athens county in 1810. He settled as a farmer in Athens township, where he died, October 1, 1841. Mr. Hawk's family, formerly well and favorably known in this community,

are now scattered. William, the oldest son, died in 1864, while commanding a steamer in General Banks' expedition up the Red river. John lives in Texas; James and Columbus in Clarke county, Ohio, and Geo. W. in Mt. Vernon, Ohio. One of the daughters, now Mrs. Dr. Huxford, lives in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and the other, Mrs. Durbin, in Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

*Nicholas Baker, senior*, born in England in 1760, was brought to this country at seven years of age, for forty-four years followed the sea, as cabin boy and sailor, and in 1814, with his only son Isaiah Baker, came to Athens county where he lived in his son's family, in the vicinity of Athens, till his death in 1829.

*Isaiah Baker*, son of the foregoing, born in Barnstable, Massachusetts, in the year 1780, came to this county with his family in 1814, and settled three miles west of Athens, where he followed farming the rest of his life. He died in 1825, leaving seven sons and three daughters, all of whom are living, except one son, Matthias, who was killed by the kick of a horse in 1837. Mr. Baker was a worthy member of the Methodist church.

*Nicholas Baker*, son of Isaiah, born in Massachusetts in 1799, has lived in Athens (town and township) fifty-four years. Social and genial in his daily intercourse with friends, few men lead a more placid life than

“Uncle Nick.” With a heart corresponding in capacity to his ponderous frame, with a healthy and happy temperament, he is one of those kind-hearted men whom dumb animals like and children make friends with. He fondly cherishes the remembrance of his once having lived in Judge Silvanus Ames’ family, in Ames township, in the summer of 1817. Edward R. Ames (Rev. Bishop Ames) at that time was eleven years old, and Mr. Baker, partial to him in boyhood, refers to their early acquaintance with lively pleasure. He relates with much gusto and laughter how “the bishop,” being naturally rather lazy, would lie on the grass in the shade and amuse young Baker with his talk, while the latter cheerfully performed an extra amount of work for his dreaming companion. Mr. Baker, formerly a farmer, has resided for many years past in the town of Athens. His son, George W. Baker, is now treasurer of Athens county.

*Jacob L. Baker*, another of the sons of Isaiah Baker, is an extensive farmer in Athens township. He has a family of seven sons and one daughter, most of whom are well settled on good farms in the neighborhood of their father, who manages to buy an additional farm as often as needed, for some of his family.

The five other sons of Isaiah Baker removed to the west and are there settled—most of them in Illinois.

*Capt. David Pratt*, born at Colchester, Connecticut, in 1780, came with his father’s family to Marietta in

1798, and removed to Athens in 1812. Here he was for many years a successful teacher, and there are old men living who well remember his thorough instruction and his stern discipline. In 1814 he married Miss Julia Perkins, eldest daughter of Dr. Eliphaz Perkins, whose christian graces and excellence of character were long known and admired in Athens. To them were born three sons and three daughters, all of whom are now living. The sons are all graduates of the Ohio university; two of them, the Rev. Eliphaz Perkins Pratt and the Rev. John H. Pratt being well-known ministers of the Presbyterian church, and the third, Dr. Robert Pratt, a successful physician in Illinois.

David Pratt died in 1861, and his wife in 1867, aged eighty-three. They were both members of the Presbyterian church in Athens for more than half a century.

*Joseph Dana*, born at Ipswich, Massachusetts, in 1768, was educated at Dartmouth college and graduated in 1788. He intended to pursue the ministry, but owing to delicate health did not carry out this purpose; he subsequently studied and qualified himself for the practice of the law. He served some time in the Massachusetts legislature, but his health continuing frail, he resolved to leave New England. In 1817 he removed west and settled at Athens, where he at first engaged in the practice of law. Though never a ready speaker, Mr. Dana was a thorough lawyer and fine

special pleader—a branch of the practice necessarily more cultivated in those days than now. About two years after coming here he was elected professor of languages in the university—a position for which he was admirably qualified by his fine scholarship and intellectual habits. His connection with the university continued till 1835 when the infirmities of age led him to resign his position.

Professor Dana was an accomplished scholar and cultivated gentleman. He was, for many years, an elder in the Presbyterian church here, and a lofty intellectuality pervaded his religion and all his modes of thought. He died November 18th, 1849. His sons, Joseph M. Dana, Daniel S. Dana, Capt. William Henry Dana, U. S. N., and others of his descendants are well known in this community.

*James Brice* was born in Maryland in the year 1750, and, removing to western Pennsylvania, settled near Fort Pitt (Pittsburg) in 1787. While living here he held various public stations, such as member of the state legislature, county commissioner, collector of internal revenue, trustee of Washington college, etc. In 1821 he removed further west, and settled in the town of Athens, where he passed the latter years of his life, living in the family of his son. He was a man of high character, and during his long life was an active

and exemplary christian. He died in Athens, December 22, 1832.

Barnet Brice, his son, and a native of Pennsylvania, preceded his father to Athens, having settled here in 1807. He kept public house many years (he built the Union hotel now occupied by O. B. Potter), and was extensively acquainted through the country. He died about 1853.

Thomas Brice, another son of James, came to Athens in 1818. He was a successful merchant here for many years, and a large dealer in cattle from 1820 to 1830. He built the brick dwelling house on Court street, now owned and occupied by Dr. W. P. Johnson.

In 1815 *Nathan Dean*, with his family, mostly grown, of six sons and three daughters, came to this county from Norton, Bristol county, Massachusetts. The young people all settled here, and raised respectable families in subsequent life. Three of them, William, Gulliver, and John N. Dean, made the brick, in the summer of 1816, for the central building of the Ohio university in Athens, and later, in 1835, one of them, John N. Dean, made the brick for the two additional or wing buildings of the university. The eldest of the family, afterward Colonel Nathan Dean, settled near Amesville, in the eastern part of the county, and died much respected in the year 1839.

At the time this family left Massachusetts, in 1815,



the manufactures of the country were only so far advanced, that, in making *nails*, their heads were made *singly* by hand, and these brothers had worked considerably at *heading nails by hand* before coming to Ohio. One of their ancestors, James Leonard, is believed to have been the first man that manufactured *iron* in America, and a son of his, Jonathan Leonard, the first to manufacture *steel*. Jonathan went to England and feigned to be *simple*, in order to get work in an establishment manufacturing steel, and thus gained the knowledge which the English were studiously endeavoring to conceal from the artisans of other countries. Upon his return the firm of "Leonard & Kinsley" successfully engaged in the production of steel in this country.

*Charles Shipman*, for more than twenty years an active and leading citizen of Athens, was born in Saybrook, Connecticut, August 28, 1787. He came to Marietta, with his father's family, in 1790, and they remained in the "stockade" during the Indian war. Colonel Shipman came to the town of Athens in 1813, and engaged in merchandising, in which line his business talent and popular manners soon gave him decided prominence, and ultimately large success. In early times he visited Philadelphia for the purchase of goods, once every year, and sometimes twice a year, always on horseback. Some of the old citizens of Athens still remember the

fine sorrel horse, long owned by Colonel Shipman, on which he thus made nineteen trips from Athens to Philadelphia and back.

Colonel Shipman was a man of fine social qualities, genial manners, and benevolent heart. He was the first, or one of the first, merchants in this part of the state to discard the sale of intoxicating drinks, to stop the practice of "treating" customers, and to engage actively in the temperance cause. He was, during the most of his life, a professor of religion, and for many years a ruling elder of the Presbyterian church of Athens.

Colonel Shipman (he was elected colonel of a militia regiment during his residence at Athens) married Frances White Dana, of Belpre, in 1811. She died in 1813. The only issue of this marriage was a son, William C. Shipman, for many years past a citizen of New Albany, Indiana. In 1815 he married Joanna, the eldest daughter of Esquire Henry Bartlett, who is still living in Marietta. Colonel Shipman left Athens in 1836 to reside at Marietta, where he died July 7, 1860.

*Silas Pruden*, born in Norristown, New Jersey, in 1773, came to Athens county in 1815, and purchased the mills and farm east of Athens, then owned by Col. Jehiel Gregory, who soon after removed to Fayette county, Ohio. Mr. Pruden rebuilt and improved the mills, which were known as the "Pruden mills," till

about 1836, when Mr. Pruden sold them with the adjoining farm, etc., to J. B. & R. W. Miles. Mr. Pruden was a man of considerable means, and raised a highly respectable family of six sons and seven daughters. In November, 1832, one of his daughters, Achsah, was married to John Brough, late governor of Ohio. Mr. Pruden was a member of the Presbyterian church during his residence in the county, and a most worthy man. In 1837 he removed to Hocking county, where he died, November 30, 1856.

*Samuel B. Pruden*, son of Silas Pruden, was born at Norristown, New Jersey, January 17, 1798, and came to Athens county with his father's family in 1815. On arriving at manhood he developed unusual capacity for business, and, during his long residence in the county, was one of her prominent and leading citizens. In 1826 he began the milling and wool-carding business at the "Bingham mills," west of Athens, which he continued about ten years. In 1836 he established himself permanently about two miles below Athens, on the Hockhocking, where he erected an oil mill, a grist and saw mill, and in 1840 a salt boiling establishment. The settlement that he here founded has long been known as Harmony. For many years Mr. Pruden carried on the manufacture of salt at this point, and also at Chauncey, in Dover township, where he owned another furnace. He was associate judge for one term,

trustee of the Ohio university for several years, and represented the county in the state legislature in 1854-5. He also held the office of county surveyor for many years. As a member of the Masonic fraternity he advanced from one degree to another in that body, till he became commander of the Athens Encampment of Knights Templar. He died December 10, 1863.

*Neil Courtney* was an Englishman by birth, and was, for a time, in the British navy during the revolutionary war. Near the close of the war, while the vessel on which he was serving lay off Long Island, he deserted the service into which he had been impressed, swam half a mile to shore, and assumed allegiance to the new government. He came to Athens county in 1806, and settled one mile north of Athens, on what was afterward known as the "Courtney farm." The following entries appear in the old records of the county commissioners:

"*April 8, 1809.* The petitions of William Dotr and Neil Courtney, praying for an alteration in the road leading from the Horse mill to the mouth of Sunday creek, and from Athens to Coe's mill, read the first time. Petition granted. Jehiel Gregory, Samuel Moore, and Robert Linzee appointed viewers, to meet at Neil Courtney's on Monday, the 12th instant, at 9 o'clock A. M."

"*December 6, 1810.* The commissioners agreed, on condition that Neil Courtney produce to them satisfactory proof that

he has worked, or expended on the alteration in the road leading from the Horse mill, near Esquire Bingham's, to the mouth of Sunday creek, the sum of five dollars, that then said road shall be established. Proof filed in office of commissioners, February —, 1811."

Mr. Courtney died January 22, 1826, in his sixty-eighth year. Numerous descendants of his are living in this county.

*Joseph Goodspeed*, born in Barnstable, Massachusetts, in June, 1774, came to this county, with his family of five sons and three daughters, in 1818, and settled on a farm about two miles west of Athens, where he died February 12, 1857. His two sons, David and Ezra Goodspeed, well known in the county as successful farmers, were born in Barnstable, Massachusetts, and came to Athens, with their father, in 1818. Many of their descendants still live in the county, and are highly respected. Major Arza Goodspeed, son of David, was killed before Vicksburg, while bravely doing his duty as a soldier of the Union, and J. McKinly Goodspeed, son of Ezra, and a graduate of the Ohio university, is at present superintendent of the Athens union schools.

*Francis Beardsley*, born at Stratford, Hartford county, Connecticut, December 28, 1792, came to Athens in 1814, where he has lived ever since. Soon after com-

ing here he married Miss Culver, sister of John Gillmore's wife, who died in ——. For his second wife he married Rebecca, daughter of Esquire Henry Bartlett. Of a retiring disposition and unobtrusive manners, Mr. Beardsley has led a quiet and useful life. A model of christian rectitude under all circumstances, he is respected and esteemed by all who know him.

*Norman Root*, born in Canaan, Litchfield county, Connecticut, January 22, 1798, removed to Ohio in 1816, and to the town of Athens about the year 1820. In 1824 he married Jane Brice, sister of Thomas Brice, long known as a leading citizen of Athens. In 1827 Mr. Root was elected county auditor, and served till 1839, being re-elected five times. He was also, for many years, recorder of Athens, and held other positions of trust in the community, in all of which he discharged his duty with scrupulous fidelity. He was a man of great modesty and reticence, but of sound judgment and excellent business capacity. He was, for a long time, prominent as a Free Mason, and, for forty years, was a devoted and consistent member of the Methodist church. He died September 21, 1867.

*E. Hastings Moore*, born in Worcester county, Massachusetts, in 1812, came to Athens county with the family of his father, David Moore, in 1817. For about ten years the youth lived on a farm in Dover

township, and then for several years on a farm in this township, about two miles from Athens, whence he finally removed to the town itself, where he has ever since resided. Mr. Moore had a good common school education (he taught some when a young man), and a taste for practical mathematics. In 1836 he became deputy county surveyor, and in 1838 was elected by the people to that office, then a difficult and laborious one. He held this position till 1846, discharging its duties with uncommon accuracy and entire acceptance to the public. In 1846 he was elected county auditor, which office he held, under re-elections, fourteen years. In 1862 he was appointed collector of internal revenue for the fifteenth Ohio district, and held the office till 1866. In 1868 he was elected to the forty-first congress from the fifteenth Ohio district as a republican. He is also president of the First National Bank at Athens.

Mr. Moore is a man of great practical sense and strict integrity, and is esteemed by all as a valuable citizen.

*William Golden*, born in Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, October 5th, 1799, came to Athens county in 1824, and settled at first in Athens, but later, in Alexander township, as a farmer. Here he was elected justice of the peace for many successive years. He was county sheriff from 1843 to 1847, and county treasurer

from 1848 to 1854. In 1843 he removed to the town of Athens, where he has since resided, and is now post master. Three of his sons are living, viz: John C., a farmer and stock dealer in Meigs county, Elmer, a merchant in Jackson, Ohio, and William R.

*William Reed Golden*, son of the last named, was born in Athens, April 11th, 1827, and passed his early years on his father's farm in Alexander. He was educated at the Ohio university, studied law at Athens with Lot L. Smith, and attended lectures at the National Law School at Ballston Spa, New York, where he graduated in 1851. Returning to Athens, he entered on the practice of his profession here in 1852. In 1865 he was elected, as a democrat, to the state senate, and re-elected in October, 1867, to represent the counties of Athens, Hocking, and Fairfield, composing the ninth senatorial district. He has recently removed to Columbus, Ohio, where he is now engaged in the practice of law.

*John Welch*, born in 1805, in Harrison county, Ohio, came to Athens county about 1828, and settled in Rome township. Here he and his brother Thomas Welch bought the "Beebe mill," at that time owned by their father, and for some years he pursued the milling business. While performing his duties as miller, Mr. Welch studied law with Professor Joseph



Dana of Athens, going some fourteen miles to recite once in a week or two. Having finished his studies and prepared to change his vocation, he removed to Athens, where he was admitted to the bar in 1833 by the supreme court of Ohio, sitting in Athens county. In this field his success was assured from the start. His eminent abilities, indefatigable industry and devotion to his profession soon placed him at the head of the Athens bar, and finally among the ablest lawyers of the state. He was prosecuting attorney of Athens county for several years; a member of the state senate in 1846-7; a representative in congress in 1851-2; and judge of the common pleas court from 1862 to 1865. February 23d, 1865, he was appointed by the governor, judge of the supreme court of Ohio, in place of Rufus P. Ranney, resigned, and in October, 1865, was elected for Judge Ranney's unexpired term. In October, 1867, he was elected for the fall term, and occupies the position at the present time.

Judge Welch's career, which has been attended with honorable and solid success, is a sufficient eulogy upon his character as a man and citizen, and his ability as a lawyer.

*Dr. Eben G. Carpenter* was born at Alstead, New Hampshire, in 1808. His father was a physician, and, of eight brothers, five studied medicine. Dr. C. graduated at the Berkshire Medical college at Pittsfield,

Massachusetts, in 1831, practiced in New Hampshire a year or so, came to Ohio in 1833 and settled at Chester, Meigs county (then the county seat). In 1836 he came to Athens, where he has lived ever since, engaging very actively in the practice of his profession. Dr. C. has been notably successful as an operative surgeon.

*Dr. William Blackstone* was born in Bottetourt county, Virginia, in 1796, and came with his father's family to Ohio in 1802, settling first in Pickaway and afterward in Ross county. He studied medicine at Circleville, Ohio, and Lexington, Kentucky, and graduated at the Cincinnati Medical college in 1833, having engaged actively in the practice during several years before this. Dr. B. came to Athens in 1838, and has practiced here continuously since. He and Dr. Carpenter have both partially retired from active practice.

Dr. Perkins, Dr. Jewett, Dr. Bierce (who left here about 1840), Dr. Carpenter, and Dr. Blackstone are the only resident physicians who remained for any length of time in the place during the first half of this century. There are now three practicing physicians here, viz: Dr. W. P. Johnson, Dr. C. L. Wilson, and Dr. George Carpenter.

*Nelson H. Van Vorhes*, son of Abraham Van Vorhes, himself for many years a leading citizen of the county

was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, January 23d, 1822. In 1832 his father removed with his family to Athens county, and settled in Alexander township. In 1836, his father having bought the *Western Spectator* and removed to Athens, Nelson entered the printing office as an apprentice. He worked diligently here for some years, part of the time having sole conduct of the paper, as his father was elected to the state legislature, and was absent for several winters. In 1844 he purchased the paper, which he continued to publish (a portion of the time in connection with his brother A. J. Van Vorhes), till 1861 as the *Athens Messenger*. During this time he took an active part in the political contests of the day and in furthering the home and local interests of the county. He served from 1850 to 1853 in the state legislature; in 1853 was whig candidate for secretary of state, but, with the rest of the ticket, failed of election; in 1854 was elected probate judge of the county, but resigned to become a candidate again for the legislature. He was elected, and became speaker of the house, which position he held during two sessions. In 1857 he was re-elected to the legislature. In 1858 he was republican candidate for congress in the 11th district, but was not able to overcome the democratic majority. He was a delegate to the Chicago convention in 1860, and took an active part in the presidential campaign which followed. At the breaking out of the war in 1861,

Mr. Van Vorhes enlisted as a private in the first company of infantry raised at Athens, and on the election of officers was chosen first lieutenant. In 1862, he was appointed colonel of the 92d Ohio regiment of infantry, which command he retained, serving in Western Virginia, till the summer of 1863, when, his health completely failing, he was forced to resign. Col. Van Vorhes has never fully recovered his health. He has held various local offices during the past few years, and possesses, in as high degree as ever, the confidence and respect of the community.

*Charles H. Grosvenor*, born in Pomfret, Connecticut, September 20, 1833, came to Athens county with his father's family when five years old, and lived in Rome during his youth and early manhood. While clerking in the store of Daniel Stewart he obtained books from Lot L. Smith, of Athens, and read law assiduously. He practiced with success in Athens for a few years prior to the breaking out of the rebellion, and entered the service in July, 1861, as major of the 18th Ohio infantry. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel March 16, 1863. March 14, 1865, Maj. Gen. J. B. Steedman recommended Col. Grosvenor to the secretary of war for promotion "for faithful, distinguished and gallant services." The recommendation was thus indorsed by Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas: "Respectfully forwarded and earnestly recommended.

Lieut. Col. Grosvenor has served under my command since November, 1862, and has, on all occasions, performed his duties with intelligence and zeal." Gen. Grosvenor was promoted to colonel April 8, 1865, and served till the close of the war. He was breveted brigadier general to date from March 13, 1865, and was mustered out October 28th in that year. He is now practicing law in Athens.

*Samuel Knowles*, a native of Connecticut, and, during early life, a sea-faring man, came to Athens county in 1808 and settled at Hockingport. In 1812 he married Miss Clarissa Curtis, sister of Judge Walter Curtis of Washington county, and in 1820 removed to the town of Athens where he resided for many years. He was elected marshal of the town in 1825 and 1826. He removed to the west many years since, and is now living in Knoxville, Iowa.

*Samuel S. Knowles*, son of the last named, was born at Athens, August 25, 1825, received his early education at the village schools, learned the carpenter trade when seventeen years old and followed it for a few years, entered the academy at Athens at the age of twenty-one, and pursued his studies there and in the university about four years, read law with Lot L. Smith, was admitted to the bar in 1851, elected prosecuting attorney of Athens county the same year, and held the office

two terms. He practiced law at Athens till 1862, when he removed to Marietta. In October, 1865, he was elected state senator from the 14th district, comprising Washington, Morgan, and Noble counties, serving two years. In April, 1864, he was elected mayor of Marietta, and re-elected in 1866, serving four years. He is now engaged in the practice of law at Marietta.

*John Ballard* was born in Charlemont, Massachusetts, October 1st, 1790, and came to Athens in February, 1839. During the greater part of his residence here he engaged successfully in the mercantile business; was also for several years president of the Athens branch of the State Bank, and a leading man in the local enterprises of the place. He has now retired from business. Four of his sons are living, viz: Otis, a banker in Circleville, Ohio; Charles, manufacturer of farm implements in Springfield, O.; James, merchant in Athens, and the Rev. Addison Ballard at Detroit, Michigan.

*Thomas F. Wildes* was born at Racine, in the dominion of Canada, June 1, 1834, came to Ohio with his father's family in 1839, and to Athens in 1861 as the editor of the *Athens Messenger*. Mr. Wildes was an ardent republican, and in August, 1862, exchanging the pen for the sword, he entered the military service as lieutenant colonel of the 116th Ohio infantry. He was in active service with this regiment during the next

two and a half years, in the army of West Virginia, part of the time commanding a brigade. In February, 1865, he was promoted to the colonelcy of the 186th Ohio volunteer infantry, and assigned to duty in the Army of the Cumberland. March 11th, 1865, he was breveted brigadier general and commanded a brigade in the army last named till he was mustered out in September, 1865. He graduated at the law school in Cincinnati in 1866, and has since practiced his profession at Athens.

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BY

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county formed a part for fifteen years, was in 1788, and was the first in the State. Many of the settlers in Washington county became the pioneers in Athens. The town of Marietta was incorporated more than a year before the city of Cincinnati, and the town of Athens only eight years after, though it had been settled several years before it was incorporated. The university at Athens is the oldest in the State, and in all the States north-west of the Ohio River. The first library formed in the north-western territory was in this county, and an early impress of solidity and intelligence was thus given to the population which has never wholly disappeared.

These matters and many others connected with the early history of the county will be fully set forth. The work will also contain biographical sketches of the originators of the Ohio Company, of some of the early settlers of Washington county and of many of those of Athens—in the latter county of the Brown, Hibbard, Wyatt, Rice, Glazier, Buckingham, Barker, Miller, Cutler, Pilcher, Rowell, Ames, Perkins, Hewitt, Currier, Armstrong, Bingham, and Baker families, and many others in each township, with personal incidents and adventures. Also, accounts of the settlement of Amesville, Athens, Nelsonville, Chauncey,

Coolville, Hebardsville, Canaanville, Hockingport, Millfield, Marfshfield, Shade, and other towns and settlements. It will present personal sketches and narratives from Hon. Thomas Ewing, Rev. Bishop Ames, and other men of mark either natives or early residents of the county, together with histories of political contests, and other matters of interest.

In fine, it will be a faithful history of the county from a period prior to its organization, disclosing many matters long since forgotten or never made public, and giving grateful credit to the good men and true who have lived and died there. It will be interesting to every person who has ever lived in the county; to the descendants or relatives of such in this or other states, and to all who are interested in the early beginnings of civil society in Ohio.

The following is a *partial* abstract of the contents of the work, which will give an idea of its character and comprehensiveness:

CHAPTER I.—Indian occupation of Ohio—Ohio two hundred years ago—Indian wars—The Wyandots, Delawares, and Shawnees—"Dunmore's war"—Building of Fort Gower, in Troy township, 1774—Earl Dunmore's march across Athens county—Parley with the Indians—His return—Meeting of officers

held at mouth of Hockhocking in 1774, and resolutions passed—Relics of that campaign—Origin and meaning of the word Hockhocking—"The last of the Red Men."

## CHAPTER II.—FORMATION OF THE OHIO COMPANY.

Close of the War of Independence—Revolutionary patriots—Their occupation gone—They look to the western country—Sketch of Gen. Rufus Putnam—His early life, revolutionary services, and intimacy with Washington—Sketch of Gen. Benjamin Tupper—Meeting of Tupper and Putnam in 1786—A night's conference and the result—Formation of the Ohio Company—First meeting in Boston—Articles of association—Dr. Manasseh Cutler—His visit to the Federal Congress in New York—Negotiates for purchase of lands—Shrewd diplomacy—Protracted negotiation and final success—Interesting extracts from Dr. Cutler's private journal—Description of the tract purchased—Was it well or ill selected?—Reasons for the location—Vast mineral wealth.

## CHAPTER III.—1787 TO 1795.—The Ohio Company prepare for emigration—Division of the lands—Gen. Rufus Putnam elected Superintendent—Appointment of surveyors and boat builders—Employment of a teacher and preacher—First ordained minister in the North-Western territory—The emigrants set out—Cross the mountains in sledges—Boat building—Commencement of the river journey—Voyage down

the Ohio—Arrival at mouth of Muskingum—Names of the pioneers—Situation of the settlers—Indian perils—Wild game, buffalo, deer, etc—Founding of Adelphia in 1788—Name changed to Marietta—Action of Congress—Officers and civil government of the territory—First governor's inaugural address delivered in Ohio—Response of the people—Ordinance of 1787—Washington county organized—Its boundaries—The courts and judges—Noble character of the pioneers—Increase of emigration—Indian war—Fearful scenes—Harmar's defeat—Massacre at Big Bottom—Block houses at Marietta—Panic at Waterford and Belpre—St. Clair's defeat—Wayne's victory—Treaty of Greenville in 1794—Close of the Indian war.

CHAPTER IV.—1797 to 1805.—Peace—Increase of emigration—Selection of the two college townships in 1795—Settlement of Athens in 1797—Names of the first settlers—They go up the Hockhocking in canoes—Appearance of the country at that time—Description of a log cabin—Judge Ephraim Cutler and Alvan Bingham—Enforcement of the laws—Lawless characters—Scarcity of salt, and how the pioneers obtained it—Town of Athens laid off in 1799—Confirmed in 1800 by act of Legislature—First houses in Athens—First store—Description of the town by a traveler in 1803—Wild game—Bounty on wolf scalps—Political events from 1798 to 1805.



**CHAPTER V.—Organization of Athens county in 1805**  
—Its boundaries—Subsequent alterations and reduction to present limits—Election of county commissioners—Their first meeting in 1805—Extracts from the records—County commissioners from 1805 to present time—County sheriffs, recorders, auditors, treasurers, and prosecuting attorneys, from 1805 to present time—Courts—Vote of Athens county from 1836 to 1867—Population by townships from 1820 to 1860—Agricultural products of the county in 1860—Same for 1866—Post-offices—The mail service prior to 1794—First post roads in Ohio—Names of post-offices in Athens county, with date of establishment and list of postmasters—Agricultural society—Formation in 1828—Its first officers—Present officers—First fair in Southern Ohio—Agriculture a noble and healthful pursuit—Topography and minerals of the county—Coal, iron, and salt—Boundless wealth.

**CHAPTER VI.—An account of the Ohio University,**  
containing the original act of incorporation, passed January 9, 1802, with original letter of Dr. Manasseh Cutler concerning it written in 1800—The subsequent act of 1804 under which the University was organized—With numerous later acts, and a history of the organization and growth of the University, and a complete list of the trustees and faculties from 1804 to the present time.

**CHAPTER VII.—TOWN AND TOWNSHIP OF ATHENS.**

Survey of the township in 1795—Rev. Mr. Quinn's visit to Athens in 1800—First mill-dam and mill—Gregory's mill—Bingham's and Miles' mills—Ferry boats—Bridges—Incorporation of Athens in 1811—Population in 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, and 1860—Town councils and officers of Athens from 1825 to present time—Township officers from 1806 to present time—History of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches in Athens—First newspaper—Interesting extracts—Later newspapers—History of the court-house—Names of the contractors, builders, etc.—Names of grand jurors from 1805 to 1817—Personal sketches of Dr. Manasseh Cutler, Dr. Eliphas Perkins, Rev. Jacob Lindley, Gen. John Brown, A. G. Brown, John Perkins, Esquire Henry Bartlett, Joseph B. Miles, A. B. Walker, Dr. Leonard Jewett, Judge Calvary Morris, Capt. Isaac Barker, Isaac Barker, Jun., Zadoc and Hull Foster, the Baker family, Col. Charles Shipman, the Pratt, the Pruden, and the Dean families, and many others.

**CHAPTER VIII.—TOWNSHIP OF AMES.**—Settlement of Ames in 1797 by Ephraim Cutler, George Ewing, and Benjamin Brown—Narrow escape of A. G. Brown, of Athens—The Ames and Wyatt families—Complete history of the "Coon-skin Library," the first formed in Ohio—List of the first purchase of books—Names of the shareholders and officers for many years—Hunting adventure of John McCune—

Same of John Boyles—First school—Later schools—  
A Baptist preacher takes his yearly pay in whisky—  
Militia organizations—Anecdote of Gen. John Brown  
—Land tax in Ames for 1807—Population in 1820,  
1830, 1840, 1850, and 1860—Township officers  
from 1802 to present time—Justices of the peace—  
Sterling character of people of Ames—The “Ames-  
ville Academy”—Personal and biographical sketches  
of Ephraim Cutler, George Ewing, Thomas Ewing,  
the Brown family, the Rices, Deacon Joshua  
Wyatt, Col. Absalom Boyles, the Glaziers, George  
Walker, Bishop E. R. Ames, Dr. Ezra Walker, and  
others.

CHAPTERS IX to XIX contain similar accounts of  
Alexander, Bern, Canaan, Carthage, Dover, Lee,  
Lodi, Rome, Troy, Trimble, Waterloo, and York  
townships, with notices of schools, bridges, mills,  
etc., lists of township officers and justices of the  
peace in each township, hunting adventures, personal  
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